

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## WOMEN'S ART, WOMEN'S VISION

### HON. HEATHER WILSON

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2008

Mrs. WILSON of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, in honor of Women's History Month, I asked New Mexicans to send me nominations of women in New Mexico who have given special service to our community, but may have never received recognition for their good deeds.

On Tuesday, March 25, 2008, I had the honor and privilege of recognizing sixty-one worthy nominations describing sacrifices and contributions these women have made for our community. The people who nominated the women describe the dedication they have witnessed: volunteer hours for veteran's services, service on non-profit boards, homeless programs, mentors for young women, health care providers going above the call of duty, child advocates, volunteers at churches and synagogues, successful business women, wives, mothers and friends.

Allow me to share information about this year's nominees:

Cindy Aguilar—As an integral member of the Lovelace Rehabilitation Hospital, Cindy demonstrates excellence in all she does. She is willing to take on extra responsibilities and is known for going the extra mile.

Bobbye Allen—Bobbye, a member of Epsilon Sigma Alpha International, has always served to make a difference in the lives of people she's never met. She does this through philanthropic work for Boys and Girls Ranch, CYF, Easter Seals, UNM Children's Hospital and also as a member of 3 different Chamber of Commerce.

Linda Barbour—Linda has worked tirelessly as a founding member and President of the East Mountain Area Coalition. She was also a key mover in initiating a permanent memorial for Deputy James McGrane. Her ability to work so efficiently with many different people makes her a great advocate and representative for the East Mountain community.

Debra Benavidez—Debra is a role model for customer service at the Lovelace Rehabilitation Hospital. Under her leadership, her department's employee and patient satisfaction has improved significantly along with an increase in volume and revenue. She is also admired for her balance of career and family life.

Peg Bilson—Peg joined Eclipse Aviation in July of 2005, bringing experience in operations, finance, engineering, technology, customer service and product support. Her leadership at Eclipse is the final element that will establish Eclipse's position in history as the Very Light Jet innovator and leader. Peg contributions are felt throughout the company, especially in the area of high-volume production and stabilization of the supply chain. As a key leader in a successful New Mexico business with over 1,600 employees, Peg has a vision for the future.

Barbara Brennen—Barbara is the owner of Stride, Inc., a manufacturing company of office supplies, which employs people with disabilities. Barbara knows that working, mastering a task or gaining a skill, is the best builder of self-esteem in the world. Over 200 people have out-grown her factory and are now employed in the community.

Sonia Britton—Sonia has turned a personal tragedy, the loss of her only son Butch in a DWI crash, into the DWI Memorial of Perpetual Tears in Moriarty. A true advocate for change, Sonia volunteers with organizations, such as Mother's Against Drunk Driving, to make a difference. She helps our community understand the personal cost of DWI.

Marlene Brown—Marlene is President of the New Mexico Solar Energy Association and serving within the organization for over 10 years. After losing her brother in 2001 to Leukemia, she raised over \$10,000 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Her volunteer work with many organizations makes a positive impact on many people.

Patricia Brown—As a child, her son, John, remembers his mother's life as an unending stream of school activities, cupcakes, PTA meetings, child advocacy boards, soup kitchens, food banks, and hospitals. At 82 years old, Patricia has spent countless hours to make the world a safe, decent and loving place.

Dede Brownstein—Dede is a dedicated volunteer with Pet Therapy, teaching the understanding of the human link to the humane treatment of animals. As a volunteer for pet therapy programs she takes her dogs to hospitals, nursing homes, libraries and the Youth Detention Center. She has made an impact on over 5,000 youth within the Detention Center alone. Dede also set up the READ to the Dogs program to help kids with reading problems.

Margaret Carroll—Margaret has served on the DWI advisory board for four years, with the last two as president. She works tirelessly to secure funding for inpatient rehabilitation programs, while bringing awareness to our community about the dangers of alcoholism. Margaret also serves on the East Mountain Coalition of Neighborhood and Landowner Association.

Jessica Cotton—At Lovelace Rehabilitation Hospital, Jessica works hard to meet the needs of those she serves. She is truly an asset with the ability to communicate and connect with customers in English or Spanish.

Becky Cousins—Becky is a woman of vision in Lea County. Through the arts and the community theatre program, Becky has worked hard as business owner, actress and director to preserve the history of Lea County, while looking to the future in order to enrich the lives of the people in her community.

Leslie Cumiford—Leslie is the President of the Center for Family Justice, which was founded in 2003. Leslie has dedicated much of her time and resources for children, single parents and blended family homes.

Bertha (Bertie) Denman—During the National Hispanic Heritage Month in 2007, Bertie

was involved in an art contest for local students. Throughout this time she visited the schools, putting in the extra effort to let each child know how special they are, inspiring many of the children to participate.

Mignon Donnellon—Mignon is the mother of four adopted children. She volunteers with several organizations to raise funds for scholarships of deserving children for higher education.

Dr. Leslie Donovan—Dr. Donovan is described as a superior educator, mentor and friend at the University of New Mexico. While sharing a wealth of knowledge through her classes, she goes the extra mile to support the well-being of her students.

Doris Duran—Mrs. Duran is the office manager at The Valencia County Domestic Violence Shelter, and teaches a parenting class twice a week. Whether it is at work or in her spare time she is always willing to step in and help.

Pamela Finley—Pamela moved to New Mexico 2 years ago and wasted no time getting involved with several organizations in Valencia County, including Valencia Youth Literacy Council and the Mid Valley Air Park. Today, she also provides coaching for young women in the Miss New Mexico Scholarship program.

Joe Ann Gantz—Born in 1932, she was the only one of 12 children to earn a degree from NMSU, a rarity in those days. In the 1960s, Joe Ann started a kindergarten, one of only two in Las Cruces. A believer in education, she later earned a Masters in speech therapy and worked with handicapped children in the Las Cruces Public Schools.

Evelyn Gutierrez—Evelyn has been the volunteer Program Director for "Thomas Baca's Food Pantry" for over 15 years. She travels 64 miles round trip from Chilili to Albuquerque several times a month as part of her commitment to the program. She has inspired others to volunteer. Despite having been declared "dead once," she continues to live her passion to help others.

Mary Halberg—Mary is the youth director at a church and school, supporting youth and their parents with her optimistic attitude. She does something special for people every day. The kindergarten class wanted to do something special for Mary, they nominated her because she takes the time to read them stories and share her passion for learning.

Debra Hennig—A successful business woman in the Title Industry, Debra is sharing her success by establishing internships for young women through UNM's Black Student Union. Additionally, she teaches continuing education for the NM State Bar and involves herself in her church and several community organizations.

Helen Janacek (recognized posthumously)—Helen was an enthusiastic Line Dance instructor at Albuquerque Senior Centers for nearly 14 years. Each quarter, new

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

classes would start with repeat students and new comers. She prepared those who were interested in competition as well as those who just had great fun. Her contribution to the senior program will be greatly missed.

Anis Johnson—Anis has dedicated her life to doing for others. We can only highlight her service with over twenty organizations and charities. Anis is a Founder and Coordinator of Highland High School Volunteer Program's "Community Resource People at HHS" where she teaches by example, the ability to help and learn from those of different backgrounds. In this way she passes volunteerism from generation to generation. With the understanding that education opens doors, Anis served as the Program Coordinator for the Martin Luther King, Jr Multicultural Celebration awarding scholarships for college bound students. "One person can make a difference."

Dr. Feroza Jussawalla—Dr. Jussawalla's vigor and compassion for Literary works and teaching naturally draws her students into the topic at hand. She provides her students at UNM with an exceptional educational experience.

Ingrid Kloet-Garrett—Ingrid has been known to go "way beyond the call of duty," when it comes to the medical, emotional and spiritual needs of her clients at First Nations Community Health Source. Her ability to assess needs and find resources has enhanced the recovery and healing needed by all she serves.

Regina Lane—As a School Principal, Regina Lane teaches her students to persevere when life perplexes, to strive to be a better person and to rise above circumstances. There are no excuses in Regina's mind, yet she empathizes and connects with her students in a way that truly nurtures their spirits and their ability to succeed.

Kim Lark—Kim's dedication to the New Mexico Task Force One, an urban search and rescue team, combined with her duties as a physician, make her an invaluable asset to New Mexico. In addition, her willingness to volunteer her time, share her considerable expertise, and represent the team, makes others proud to be associated with her.

Megan Olivia Lloyd—Megan served on four church missions, building one church and 3 houses. She has been to Morocco with Operation Smile to assist with cleft palate surgeries. She has also helped raise money for additional surgeries. Megan maintains a high academic standard and is involved with athletics at Cibola High School.

Sydné Lockwood—Sydné is a volunteer for a local domestic violence shelter, where she has worked in fund raising to keep the services available. She is active in her Air Force Junior ROTC program, which includes community service for charitable organizations.

Patricia Madrid—"Ms. Pat," as she is known to the students of Acoma Elementary, is known for the care, love and tenderness she gives to each student. It is not unusual to be in a store and hear a young voice yell out "Ms. Pat" and see children rushing to her for a hug and smile. She is a person of strong moral fiber and strength of character, who is an unselfish wife, mother, caregiver and friend.

Dianna Martinez—Dianna's commitment to the nurses at Lovelace Rehabilitation Hospital earned her the reputation as the "go-to-gal." She coordinates the charity drive and has

worked with the United Way for several years. Dianna is described as someone who has made a profound difference in the lives of others.

Pat Mallory—Pat coordinates an intergenerational tutoring program run by the non-profit OASIS educational organization. Through her leadership, the program has grown to 100 senior citizen tutors providing reading assistance to over 120 first to fourth grade students. Her dedication and commitment to this program will only serve to help it to continue to grow.

Molly McCoy-Brack—Molly is a founding member of the New Mexico Suicide Prevention Coalition and the professional director of Agora Crisis Center. The center has flourished under her leadership, with 140 volunteers serving 700 callers per month in New Mexico.

Betty Ann Miller—Betty Ann has a passion for literacy in New Mexico. She is currently serving on the Board of the New Mexico Coalition for Literacy, while being an active Board member of the "Read/Write" program in Moriarity, and President of the Board of the non-profit organization, "Reading Works", which is dedicated to literacy improvement in the Albuquerque area.

Anastasia Mora—Anastasia is described as a team member who has made a significant contribution to Lovelace Rehabilitation Hospital. She has demonstrated excellent work ethics and customer service.

Deborah B. Morrell—Demonstrating an "open door" policy to her staff and students with countless hours of dedication to Eagle Ridge Middle School, Principal Morrell is one of the most successful administrative leaders in the Rio Rancho School District. Through her leadership, the school is a model for others in the area.

Judge Judith Nakamura—The Honorable Judge Judith Nakamura has a commitment to seeing that all citizens have access to the court and receive equal justice under the law. She has made a number of changes in the procedures of the court to provide service to the community include drug courts and homeless courts. Additionally she often speaks to youth about her role as a judge and community involvement.

Sylvia M. Olona—Sylvia is a dedicated Physician's Assistant who travels throughout New Mexico to provide health care to residents when no physician is available. She provides a much needed service in rural New Mexico.

Eva C. Panana—Eva started her career in 1966 as a Head Start Teacher for the Jemez Pueblo. She retired in 1994, although she remains active as a Foster Grandparent. Now known as "Grandma Eva" she brings joy, laughter and love with her always. Her long commitment to education is apparent with the majority of the tribal members in their 50's having been in her classroom.

Linda Pardo—Linda is a woman who loves the history of New Mexico, particularly the legend of Billy the Kid. She is seeking to share her enjoyment of this great land by writing a book about New Mexico.

Clara Pena—Clara is being recognized for her multiple contributions in the areas of crime reduction, health, education, services to seniors and youth within Albuquerque, particularly in the South Valley. Through her work and commitment to others, projects have grown.

Winnona Poole—Ms Poole started the after school program "Arts Academy" for La Mesa

Elementary School children. She provides the leadership and the enthusiasm for this creative program.

Barbara Rivers—A superb teacher of music at Sandia Prep for many years. Barbara also shares her talent by playing the violin in the New Mexico Symphony Orchestra. In addition she is a tri-athlete, serving as a role model to students and colleagues.

Marianne Robinson—An inspirational School Counselor at Sierra Vista Elementary school Marianne greets the student and staff with the daily message of "Make it a great day or not—the choice is yours." As a cancer survivor she is a role model for the message everyday.

Carol Romero—Carol has been a dedicated advocate for the rights of individuals with disabilities for the past 34 years. Her advocacy began with her oldest child, and spread to being a successful provider agency to those with disabilities. Carol recently lost her husband of 37 years and was embraced with support from the families she serves. She will continue to serve those with disabilities far into the future.

Dr. Eileen Ryan—As a Manager at Magdalena Ridge Observatory Dr. Ryan is guiding the 2.4-meter aperture telescope team toward wonderful achievements and discoveries. She shares her knowledge and experience with students to expand their visions of the Universe through the wonders of Astronomy.

Sandi Sadila—Sandi is team member with Angels Acts of Kindness, an organization serving individuals who may not be eligible for other assistance. The nomination put it simply: "She helped my family several times, and she really is an Angel."

Dr. V Vita Saavedra—As Program Director for the Cooperative Educational Administrative Intern Program, "Vita" touches the careers and more importantly the lives of future and current school administrators through her true interest in their success. She remains in contact with her students to encourage life long growth.

Shirley Sechrist—Shirley is a tireless volunteer and valued worker with many community organizations including: Top donor coordinator for United Blood Service, multiple roles with the Assistance League of Albuquerque and as President of the Presbyterian Hospital Auxiliary. Shirley has had a positive impact on many.

Charla Smith—An English teacher at St. Pius X High School, Charla shares her love of the English language and literature. She challenges her students at every turn with complex assignments in reading, writing, vocabulary and grammar thus inspiring them to dream big and achieve.

Linda Smith—As director of the Bethel Community Storehouse, Linda serves people throughout the Estancia Valley who are experiencing hardships and in need of help and support. She has touched the lives of many and inspired her coworkers, with her positive outlook and actions.

Wanda Sullenger—As a member of the Mountainair Volunteer Fire Department, Wanda dedicates her time and energy to aid the members of her community in difficult times. Her care for those who are sick or gravely ill is compared only to the level of care and comfort she offers to their families.

Melissa Salmon—Melissa divides her time between the education of three young boys,

working as the only secretary for the Mountain Elementary School, where she goes to work even during snow delays, and being a dedicated wife and mother. Melissa is "a credit to her community and to her family."

Sallie Van Curen—Sallie is the co-founder and executive director of Parents Reaching Out to Help, Inc. She has inspired others through her dedication, drive and commitment to all the families she serves.

Mary Ann Weems—With a life long dedication to the arts, the creation of the Weems Galleries and Framing and the nationally recognized Weems Artfest, Mary Ann is a role model for women in the arts. She has achieved excellence in visual arts while championing health care programs for children, and helping to set the standard for art galleries and businesswomen in NM.

Dr. Ann Wehr—As President of Molina Healthcare of New Mexico, Dr. Wehr has used her talents to ensure that over 71,000 low-income individuals and their families receive quality healthcare. She works with physicians to develop innovative programs to reach the under served.

Linda Walsh—Working for the Small Business Programs Office at Kirtland AFB, Linda is a champion for the minority business community. She has been instrumental in outreach from Kirtland to bring small business together with federal agencies.

Beverly White—Beverly's work for the people of New Mexico through the Office of the Medical Investigator lasted for more than 30 years. One of her greatest accomplishments was writing the initial grant for the NM Sudden Infant Death Syndrome Information and Counseling Project. It has served as a national model, and helped thousands of families.

Bobbie Williams—As a member of a number of community and business organizations, and an engineer at Sandia National Laboratories, Bobbie has served as a mentor, professional development advisor and friend to aspiring young people and colleagues. Bobbie is also one of only seven women inducted into the Girl Scouts Hall of Fame for Women in Technology.

Dr. Joyce Wilson—Dr. Wilson has worked in social work for over 35 years, founding the first External Employee Assistance Program which has saved hundreds of people from losing their jobs while also improving their lives. She volunteered with many community Boards and Committees to share her personal and professional skills.

Fay Yao—Ms Yao has been the librarian at Rio Grande High School for over 15 years, where she has shown constant support and dedication to the students and staff. She is a supporter of the Science department, providing updates and expansion of the science reference material. She has served as a mentor to a number of students while always improving the school's library to benefit all.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF AL STERN

### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Al Stern, a person who has dedicated his life to free speech and culti-

vating the seeds of Middle East peace and understanding in the Cleveland community. On March 27, 2008, Americans for Peace Now is honoring Al Stern for his lifelong commitment to peace in the Middle East and his dedication to "Tikkun Olam," the healing of the world.

After graduating from Indiana University with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Al Stern founded Stern and Company, a manufacturers' representative firm in 1962. During his 3 decades with the company, Mr. Stern became actively involved in the Middle East peace issues starting in 1974. He helped found the Cleveland chapter and serves as a national board member of Americans for Peace Now, the solidarity organization aligned with the Shalom Achshav movement in Israel. Shalom Achshav, founded in 1978 by Israeli citizens, was formed out of the conviction that Israel's democratic character and future security were intertwined with achieving a just and peaceful solution to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

For over twenty years, Mr. Stern has engaged and educated the Cleveland community about the costs of the current conflict and the opportunities for peaceful solutions. Through organizing and discussion, he has led people to challenge their assumptions about how to humanize the opposition. In his many visits to the region, most recently in 2005, he has gotten to know the people and the leaders in Israel, Egypt, Lebanon, Syria, the West Bank, and Gaza. He has led by example, through his own commitment to educating himself, reaching out to concerned members of the community and traveling to the region.

Since his retirement in 1993, Al Stern became a full time volunteer with the American Civil Liberties Union of Ohio as its Legislative Coordinator. Since coming to Congress, I have been privileged to hear frequently from Al Stern on the many free speech and civil liberties issues about which I have had to make decisions. He has also worked closely with me in helping to build bridges across the gaps which divide people both in the Middle East and in Greater Cleveland.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing Al Stern, who has been a leader in Cleveland, a peace-maker, and an inspiration for engaged, global citizenship.

#### HONORING ANDREW WESLEY SAWYER

### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Andrew Wesley Sawyer of Blue Springs, Missouri. Andrew is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1175, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Andrew has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Andrew has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Andrew Wesley Sawyer for

his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### HIGHLIGHTING BASEBALL'S EFFORT TO REACH OUT TO MINORITY COMMUNITIES

### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to highlight Major League Baseball's ongoing effort to reach out to minority communities and introduce a press release describing said effort. The league will host the first Urban Invitational Baseball Tournament, fielding two historically black colleges in recognition of its need to revitalize baseball in the African American community. Baseball should be committed not only to boasting diversity in its rosters, but to enjoy that same minority representation in its coaches, in its management, and in its viewership.

On the heels of the 60th anniversary of Jackie Robinson's historic breaking of the color barrier, the league has targeted urban youth and pledged its resources to bring them back to the sport. African Americans have played integral roles in the illustrious story of baseball, and it is a connection worth saving.

#### MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL URBAN YOUTH ACADEMY TO HOST FIRST URBAN INVITATIONAL BASEBALL TOURNAMENT

Major League Baseball today announced that the Major League Baseball Urban Youth Academy will host its first Urban Invitational Baseball Tournament from February 29-March 2. Two Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Bethune-Cookman University (Daytona Beach, FL) and Southern University (Baton Rouge, LA), will face off against collegiate baseball powerhouses UCLA and USC. The participation of HBCUs in the Urban Invitational is part of MLB's ongoing diversity and youth initiatives.

"The Urban Invitational Baseball Tournament is a part of our continued focus on reviving the majesty of baseball in the African American community," said Major League Baseball Executive Vice President of Operations Jimmie Lee Solomon. "This tournament, along with the other programs at the MLB Urban Youth Academy, the Civil Rights Game and many of our other efforts, is reflective of the League's commitment to diversity, inclusion and engagement of our nation's young people. Our goal is to make sure that every child who wants to play baseball has an opportunity to do so."

Tournament games will be played at the MLB Urban Youth Academy, USC's Dedeaux Field and UCLA's Jackie Robinson Stadium beginning Friday, February 29 and continuing through Sunday, March 2. Both games on Saturday, March 1, 2008, will be played at the MLB Urban Youth Academy and broadcast live on ESPN2. Fans attending on that day will also be entertained by a live performance of Southern University's, "Human Jukebox" and USC's Trojan Marching Band, as they bring their unique musical performances to Compton, California. Bethune-Cookman University and Southern University baseball teams will square off against each other at 1 p.m. (PST) on Sunday at the Academy.

"ESPN is proud to be associated with Major League Baseball's urban initiatives," said Len DeLuca, ESPN Senior Vice President, Programming and Acquisitions. "The

second Civil Rights Game and new Urban Invitational—40 years since the tragic death of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.—are on the heels of our observance last year of the 60th anniversary of Jackie Robinson breaking the color barrier. ESPN is honored to join with MLB to celebrate baseball's cultural history."

Tickets to the games being played at the MLB Urban Youth Academy will be available for purchase on game day for \$5. Proceeds from the ticket sale will benefit the Major League Baseball Urban Youth Academy, which is a not-for-profit 501 (c)(3) corporation.

"On behalf of our team, I would like to say how honored we are to have been invited to an event like this, especially in its first year," said Bethune-Cookman Coach Mervyl Melendez. "We hope that the Urban Invitational Baseball Tournament continues to grow and more people notice what Major League Baseball is doing for college baseball and Historically Black Colleges."

"Our program is very excited to represent UCLA in the tournament at the MLB Academy," said UCLA coach John Savage. "We are honored to be able to play in the inaugural event. Our players are looking forward to the exciting weekend of baseball."

Major League Baseball is committed to addressing the issue of African American participation in professional baseball. Through Reviving Baseball in the Inner Cities presented by KPMG and the establishment of the Major League Baseball Urban Youth Academy in Compton, California, MLB has pledged its resources to bringing urban youth back to America's pastime. The inaugural Civil Rights Game in 2007 also reinforced the League's dedication by paying tribute to legendary African-American players who broke barriers and made important contributions to American society.

HBCUs have long offered quality education and athletic programs and have a proud tradition of outstanding baseball players. Hall of Famer Lou Brock, former most valuable player Andre Dawson and current Milwaukee Brewers star Rickie Weeks, all rose from HBCUs. Twelve HCU players were selected in the MLB 2007 First-Year Player Draft. Through the annual Urban Invitational Baseball Tournament, MLB hopes to help these programs revitalize baseball in the African American community.

The MLB Urban Youth Baseball Academy encompasses more than 15 acres on the campus of El Camino College, Compton Center, the Academy is a state-of-the-art facility featuring four fields including a show field, batting cages and other training facilities. The Academy operates on a year-round basis, offering free baseball and softball instruction, as well as clinics to youth throughout Southern California.

IN HONOR OF MICHAEL J. HARE

**HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE**

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize Michael J. Hare, deputy director of the Riverfront Development Corporation of Delaware. Mike has been an important figure there since April 1996, but has decided to take a new direction and join the Bucchini Pollin Group. Mike will be working on the new soccer stadium in Chester, Pennsylvania.

Mike started working for the Delaware Economic Development office in 1989. After 6

years, he became a senior development specialist under Governor Thomas R. Carper. Throughout the past 12 years, Mike has been an integral part of the Riverfront Development Corporation. He assisted in the construction of the Amtrak Consolidated National Operations Center, the Chase Center on the Riverfront, Tubman-Garrett Riverfront Park, the Riverwalk, Christina Landing, and the Justison Landing. Mike also worked to bring AAA Mid-Atlantic's headquarters to the Wilmington riverfront.

Mike was born and raised in Wilmington, Delaware. He attended Archmere Academy, where he currently serves on the board of directors. He graduated from the University of St. Joseph's, where he earned his bachelor's degree in public administration. Mike serves on the National Alumni Board for St. Joseph's and was honored with the Ignatius Award in 1995 for outstanding alumni involvement and service. Mike also attended the Fels Center of Government at the University of Pennsylvania.

Being a Delaware native, Mike has contributed many years of service to the State of Delaware. He currently sits on the board of directors for the Latin American Community Center, the Delaware Stadium Corporation, the Friends of the Woodlawn Library, the Riverfront Wilmington Improvement District, and the Rivers Edge Community Development Corporation. Not only has he been an active board member for numerous organizations, but Mike has also been a member of the Barbelin Society and the Hawk Hoop Club.

I acknowledge Mr. Michael J. Hare for his many years of service and numerous contributions to his community and the State of Delaware. I am confident that Mike will be successful and prosperous at his new job with the Bucchini Pollin Group. It is inspiring to see such an active and influential member of our community remain committed to the betterment of Delaware.

TRIBUTE TO PORTLAND STATE  
UNIVERSITY MEN'S BASKETBALL  
TEAM

**HON. DAVID WU**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. WU. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Portland State University men's basketball team on achieving their first-ever birth to the NCAA Division I Championship Tournament. The Vikings capped off their historic season with a 67-51 win in the Big Sky Conference Championship game over Northern Arizona University at the Rose Garden in Portland. PSU finished their regular season with a 23-9 record, and were undefeated in the Big Sky Conference Tournament. On Sunday, the Vikings will learn who they will play in the first round of the "Big Dance."

The NCAA Tournament is one of the great institutions in all of collegiate sports. It brings together the best college teams from across our Nation to compete for basketball's greatest prize. Oregon is proud of every one of these outstanding young men and their coaches.

It is also fitting that we should take this opportunity to recognize the entire Portland State community. As Oregon's largest university,

PSU is a source of pride for our State. The Viking's athletic achievements reflect the spirit and work ethic of their university, and I am proud to honor their achievement today.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize each member of the PSU men's basketball team individually, beginning with Head Coach Ken Bone, Assistant Head Coach Tyler Geving, Assistant Coaches Curtis Allen and Eric Harper, and Director of Basketball Operations Tyler Coston. Furthermore, I congratulate the 2007-2008 PSU Vikings: Kyle Coston, Brian Curtis, Jeremiah Dominguez, Justynn Hammond, Deonte Huff, Jaime Jones, Lucas Dupree, Tyrell Mara, J.R. Moore, Scott Morison, Andre Murray, Phil Nelson, Mickey Polis, Julius Thomas, Alex Tiefenthaler and Dominic Waters.

Madam Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating these outstanding young men. On behalf of the entire State of Oregon, congratulations and good luck. Go Vikings.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CITY OF  
MIDDLEBURG HEIGHTS

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the city of Middleburg Heights, Ohio on the occasion of the twentieth Anniversary Salute to the City event at the award-winning Middleburg Heights community center. Evolving from the Inaugural Ball, the Salute to the City event has paid tribute to individuals, groups, and organizations that collectively work to make Middleburg Heights the pride of Ohio and its residents.

Since years before even the Salute to the City began, Middleburg Heights would not have been the incredible city that it is today without the leadership, service, and vision of Mayor Gary Starr. In his work as mayor since 1981 and councilman for several years prior, Gary has paved the way for present and future community and economic enhancements to the City of Middleburg Heights. I applaud his dedication and strong commitment of the people of Middleburg Heights.

I stand with the Salute to the City committee, including founding committee members Darlene Kobask and Lona Gruber, to honor Mayor Gary Starr, all members of the Middleburg Heights City Council—including Council President Alan C. Budney, Councilman at Large James F. Sheppard, Councilman at Large Tim Ali, Ward 1 Councilman David Bortolotto, and Ward 4 Councilman Raymond G. Guttman—and the employees of all city departments.

Together with the Salute to the City committee, I also honor the contributions of other groups and organizations serving residents of Middleburg Heights, including the American Association of Retired Persons, the Berea City School District, the Middleburg Heights Women's Club, the Friends of the Library, the Middleburg Heights Kiwanis Club, the Middleburg Heights Community Council, the Tri-City Senior Center, Southwest Adult Day Care, the Middleburg Heights Chamber of Commerce, the Middleburg Heights Historical Society, the Middleburg Heights Veterans Memorial Committee, the Rotary Club of Middleburg Heights,

the Southwest General Health System and Foundation, and The Optimist Club.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing all of those who make the City of Middleburg Heights, Ohio, the wonderful place it is to live and work and a city known for its rich, community-driven history.

#### HONORING MICHAEL REESE KELLY

##### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Michael Reese Kelly of Blue Springs, Missouri. Michael is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1692, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Michael has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Michael has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Michael Reese Kelly for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### RECOGNIZING AND HONORING THE SERVICE OF CAPITOL POLICE OFFICER FRANK W. WILKES

##### HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, today I want to recognize and thank one of my constituents, Frank W. Wilkes of Clinton, Maryland, for his outstanding service to the United States Congress, the Members who serve here, and the entire Capitol Hill community over the last two decades.

I also want to thank and acknowledge his family—his beautiful wife of 30 years, Paulette, and his sons, Trevor and his wife Delania, and Frank W. Wilkes III.

After 20 years of service with the Capitol Police, Officer Wilkes retired recently and will move into a new phase in his life.

For most of his last years of service, Officer Wilkes served as the officer on duty at the Senate Day Care Center, a position replete with responsibility and challenge. However, what his resume does not capture is the fact that the children there adore their friend, "Officer Frank."

In turn, Frank has been a wonderful presence at the day care center, watching and ensuring that the children go about their day safely and securely. It's my understanding that he plans to come back and read to them on a monthly basis as part of his "retirement" plans.

Let me say, too, that I have heard from more than one resident in the neighborhood that Officer Wilkes will be sorely missed; that he was quite popular with the surrounding

residents who trusted his judgment, respected his extraordinary common sense, and enjoyed his presence.

During his 20 years with the Capitol Police, Officer Wilkes served a key role in protecting Members of Congress, the President, Vice President, and visiting dignitaries.

In fact, Frank was awarded a Certificate of Commendation for apprehending and subduing a suspect who was attempting to physically assault then-Vice President Dan Quayle.

Prior to joining the Capitol Police force, Officer Wilkes served for 9 years in the United States Air Force. Among other things, he was an administrative executive support manager, and served as liaison between the Office of the Secretary of the Air Force, the White House, the State Department, and the CIA to ensure the proper exchange of critical, time-urgent information.

Madam Speaker, those of us who enjoy the protection of the Capitol Police force—Members of Congress, government officials, and the general public who visit the Capitol complex—take their presence and their professionalism for granted far too often.

The truth is, we owe our Capitol Police officers—people like Frank Wilkes—a real debt of gratitude for doing such an important, oftentimes complicated job with great dedication and commitment.

Thus, today, I again want to thank Frank for his two decades of service to the Capitol Police and our Nation, and to wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

#### PRAISING TONYA KINLOW FOR WORKING TO IMPROVE DC SCHOOLS AS OMBUDSMAN

##### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to note the work Tonya Kinlow has undertaken as the District's Ombudsman for Schools. That office provides a venue for parents, teachers, and students to voice their frustrations and dissatisfaction with the low-performing school system, and to have investigations launched in order to address those complaints. Kinlow has an impressive record—she, of course, once worked for my office—and she demonstrates a fierce commitment to service that should serve her well in her new post.

She served on the DC and State boards of education and was a board member of the education advocacy group, DC Voice. She was most recently the vice president of government relations for the DC Hospital Association. And as a part of the Rangel family, she executed her tasks superbly well and with an unmatched attention to detail. I am proud of her accomplishments and the many great things she is poised to do.

#### DAY OF SPANISH LANGUAGE JOURNALISM, IN HONOR OF JUSTO DE LARA

##### HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I would like to express my sentiment that March 26, 2008, should be designated as "Spanish Language Journalism Day in honor of Justo de Lara."

Jose de Armas y Cardenas, who wrote under the pseudonym of Justo de Lara, was a distinguished journalist, poet, and author. As a result of his contributions, the Cuban department store chain El Encanto named their journalism award, the most prestigious award of its kind in Cuba, the Justo de Lara Prize for Spanish Journalistic Excellence. This award was given out from 1934 until Fidel Castro's communist takeover in 1959.

His fluency in Spanish, English, Italian, and French and his love for reading and literature fueled his own desire to write. At an early age, he was a prolific author and journalist. He worked during the Spanish-American War as a special envoy for the Sun in 1898, serving as an official translator between Cuban General Calixto Garcia and Lt. Colonel Theodore Roosevelt. Jose de Armas y Cardenas was also the only person of Spanish-speaking origin named by the Government of England in 1916 to be a member of the commission responsible for the tricentennial celebration of William Shakespeare.

Due to his legacy and example to countless generations, March 26, 2008, should be designated as "Spanish Language Journalism Day in honor of Justo de Lara," in recognition of the excellence in journalism that Jose de Armas y Cardenas achieved during his life and his love of literature, of the excellence in journalism that the award in his honor continued to recognize after his death, and of the hope for such continued excellence today and in the future.

##### HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mayor Alan Autry upon being named the Armenian National Committee's "Man of the Year." Mayor Autry will be honored at a luncheon on Sunday, March 30, 2008, at the Armenian Community Center in Fresno, CA.

Alan Autry was born in Shreveport, LA. As a child, his family moved to the Central San Joaquin Valley and settled in the small farming community of Riverdale, CA. He attended Riverdale High School and received an athletic scholarship to the University of the Pacific in Stockton, CA, where he received a bachelor's degree in physical education. Upon graduating from UOP, Mayor Autry played in the National Football League for the Green Bay Packers. He spent 3 years in the NFL before retiring.

After leaving the NFL, Mayor Autry turned to a career in film and television. For 22 years

Mayor Autry played various roles on both the big and small screen. He has continued his entertainment career through the development of the Autry Entertainment Group. As CEO of the Autry Entertainment Group, Autry continues to work to bring Fresno to the forefront as a location for entertainment projects creating economic stimulus. In a desire to further improve and serve the city of Fresno, he decided to enter the realm of politics and enter the 2000 mayoral race.

On January 2, 2001, Mayor Autry was sworn into office to serve as the Mayor of Fresno. He was elected to serve a second term that began in January 2005. While in office, the Mayor has been active in various causes with his primary focus being crime prevention and education reform. He has also been active in the Armenian community of Fresno. Prior to being elected into office, he clearly stated his desire to revitalize downtown Fresno. By revitalizing this area of the city, Mayor Autry believes that "Armenia Town" would be able to thrive as it did when Armenian immigrants first arrived in Fresno. In 2005, Mayor Autry committed to building a monument in Fresno dedicated to the victims of the Armenian Genocide. Mayor Autry has also been a strong supporter of the Armenian Genocide Resolution.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Mayor Alan Autry upon being awarded with the 2008 Armenian National Committee's "Man of the Year" Award. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mayor Autry many years of continued success.

HONORING KYLE ROBERT ELDER

### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Kyle Robert Elder of Platte City, Missouri. Kyle is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1249, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Kyle has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Kyle has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Kyle Robert Elder for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF SENATOR  
HOWARD METZENBAUM

### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Howard Metzenbaum, former U.S. Senator from Ohio. He was a close friend to me and a great asset to this

country. I valued greatly my relationship with him; I turned to him frequently for advice and inspiration. He was a consummate consumer advocate, labor rights advocate, accomplished legislator and an important figure in Ohio's political history.

Senator Metzenbaum's steadfast support for consumer rights and worker protections, as well as his commitment to protecting the working class in this country, still serves as a constant motivation for me in my service to my constituents.

During his years in the Senate, Mr. Metzenbaum introduced and passed several important pieces of legislation such as The Nutrition Information and Labeling Act of 1990 and the Cable Act of 1992, which re-regulated cable TV rates. Following his retirement from the Senate, Mr. Metzenbaum served as the Chairman for the Consumer Federation of America for ten years, a demonstration of his dedication to consumer interest.

Senator Metzenbaum will be remembered as a savvy businessman and staunch advocate for Ohio's working men and women. From parking lots to newspapers and airports his investments secured his legacy in Ohio as both an iron-willed businessman and politician. He was a fearless opponent of all things related to special interests—if a bill did not have the best interest of workers and consumers in mind, it would not budge in the Senate. He was one of the greatest senators to serve this country. Ohio was fortunate to be the beneficiaries of his service, and I was very fortunate to be the recipient of his wisdom and guidance. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family.

Madam Speaker and colleagues please join me in honoring the life of Howard Metzenbaum, a dedicated citizen and politician of Ohio, whose forceful legislative, economic and personal contributions to this country will live on long into the future.

### 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF OROVILLE STATE THEATER

### HON. JOHN T. DOOLITTLE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. DOOLITTLE. Madam Speaker, today I wish to join with the City of Oroville, California, in celebrating the 80th anniversary of the Oroville State Theater.

Dedicated on April 7, 1928, the Oroville State Theater has served as an integral part of downtown Oroville. Designed by Timothy L. Pflueger, one of the leading architects of the 1920s, the facility is now recognized in the National Historical Register.

The theater was originally designed for fine vaudeville acts and films. It was one of the last "Movie Palaces" built for both live and film entertainment. Although movies became the main staple, live performances, talent shows, war bond drives, and school graduations continued to take place within the theater.

The Oroville State Theater underwent significant remodeling at the direction of United Artists. Much of the theater's original 1928 architectural details, including the magnificent flag sign and marquee, were either removed or covered. In 1986, United Artists notified the city of its intent to close and sell the theater.

Rather than have a vacant building downtown, the city viewed the pending closure as an opportunity to fill a longstanding need for a community performance center.

Since 1986, the Oroville State Theater has undergone a significant renovation with the goal of returning the facility to its original 1928 operating condition. Subsequently, these renovations have brought back some of the building's most interesting visual features, including the facade along Myers Street. The extensive improvements have occurred because of strong support by volunteers, business and community organizations.

On April 5, 2008, we will all celebrate the theater's 80th anniversary with an event that will replicate much of the program from its original "Grand Opening," including a silent movie with live theater organ accompaniment. Without question, the community support of the Oroville State Theater continues to be the backbone of this longstanding community tradition. With the efforts put forth by so many, they have ensured that the curtain will not fall for their theater, but usher in a new era of theatrical performances.

### COMMENDING GRENADA ON NAMING ERIC GAIRY A NATIONAL HERO IN ITS 34TH ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE

### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Grenada on the commemoration of its political independence and to commend its selection of Eric Matthew Gairy, the country's first prime minister, as its first national hero. He led his country to independence from Britain in 1974 and served out his term amidst those politically charged and tense early years.

It is imperative for a nation seeking to move forward to cull its collective memory and pay homage to the men and women whose sacrifice and heroism in the past created the opportunities of the present. Grenada is applauded for its efforts to do just that, announcing along with Gairy 15 other awardees who have stood up for the island nation over the course of its 34 years. Congratulations, Grenada.

GRENADA: ERIC GAIRY NATIONAL HERO

ST. GEORGES'S GRENADA, CMC.—Former Prime Minister Sir Eric Matthew Gairy was named as the country's first National Hero and a number of outstanding nationals honoured as Grenadians celebrated 34 years of political independence from Britain.

Prime Minister Dr. Keith Mitchell announced that Gairy, who became this Caribbean country's first Prime Minister after leading the former British colony into independence on February 7, 1974, would be the nation's first hero under the recently passed National Honours Act.

The new piece of legislation provides for 15 people to be recognised annually for outstanding services to Grenada as part of the independence celebrations.

Among the first batch of awardees was deceased Grenadian-born regional broadcaster Leslie Seon and Leslie Pierre, editor of the weekly Grenadian Voice newspaper, who was made a Knight Commander for his contribution towards the development of the Scout Movement and Journalism in the island.

"Well I don't know who put my name there but I have done my part," said Pierre, who was putting together this weekend's edition when the representative of the National Hero's Commission made the announcement to the thousands who were attending Independence Day celebrations at the National Stadium.

The other awardees announced by the Committee include former teachers Eleanor Pilgrim and Lorraine Ramdhanny who received the Spice Isle Award. This award is awarded to two people who have rendered valuable service to Grenada in any field of human endeavour or for other humane action.

Joel Mark and Veronica Alexis received the Camerhogue Award, which is awarded to two citizens who rendered meritorious service in the furtherance of national prestige or for gallantry. Mark was the first Grenadian Sailor to cross the Atlantic on a solo voyage while Alexis is a retired nurse.

The Medal of Honour was presented to Commissioner of Police Winston James; former Principal Ursula Antoine and well known mas player Evelyn Mark.

Honorary awards, which are presented to non Grenadians whose work has impacted on the development of Grenada, went to USA citizen Rev. Melville Schaper and Formula One racer Lewis Hamilton, whose parents are from Grenada.

Schaper is the founder of the St. John Christian Secondary School which was opened here 42 years ago in one of the most rural villages in the country.

Governor General Sir Daniel Williams was honoured with the first Companion of the Order of Grenada award.

In his address Prime Minister Mitchell indicated that the later in the year a number of streets and buildings will be named after some prominent Grenadians who have made significant contributions towards the island since gaining independence 34th years ago.

"This Government is of the view that after 34 years of independence, it was time to develop a system that recognized Grenadians from every background all of whom have done many different types of work in building our nation and shaping our society.

"There are those who have made genuine contributions to our industrial development as a whole and who have headed up major initiatives in the corporate sector or who have given outstanding service to the community. Our new system of national awards sought to recognise them all," the Prime Minister said.

On the eve of independence the main opposition National Democratic Congress (NDC) called on the Mitchell administration to commit to naming the country's international airport after former leftist prime minister Maurice Bishop.

"We believe that the time has come, as this whole nation is moving towards genuine reconciliation and an understanding of its history, that the airport be named after the leader who perhaps did the most for its coming into being," NDC Deputy political leader, George Prime said.

The Point Salines International Airport was constructed under Bishop's administration with Cuban aid.

HONORING LEONA SASSAMAN

**HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Leona

Sassaman, longtime Tinicum Township resident. Ms. Sassaman is being recognized by the Tinicum Democrats on April 6th for her hard work and exceptional achievements in working to better her community.

Born in Uhlerstown, PA in 1925, Leona Sassaman has a long history of service to her community. Beginning her community involvement, Ms. Sassaman worked for 25 years making parts for RCA. During this time, Ms. Sassaman was an active member of the International Glass, Plastic, Pottery, and Allied Workers Union, Local 173A. Ms. Sassaman served as chief shop steward, union treasurer, secretary and president, laboring to make the workplace safer for she and her colleagues.

Ms. Sassaman has also worked for years to improve the safety of her community through her involvement with the Delaware County firehouse. A member of the firehouse for over 50 years, Ms. Sassaman was involved in the firehouse's construction in 1958. Throughout the years, Mr. Sassaman has contributed to countless fundraising events and activities for the firehouse, such as bake sales, Friday night spaghetti dinners, and rummage sales.

Adding to her distinguished work, Ms. Sassaman is an active member of the political process within her community. A member of the Board of Elections for 30 years, Ms. Sassaman was elected and served as minority clerk to the board until 2006. Ms. Sassaman has been an active member of the Democratic Party for many years, while also serving as a reliable political resource for those in her community of any political party.

As her outstanding efforts show, Leona Sassaman has pledged her life to helping those in her community. Through her tireless work, Ms. Sassaman has clearly bettered the lives of those around her. Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize Ms. Sassaman for her extraordinary accomplishments and extremely honored to serve as her Congressman.

RECOGNIZING JAMES HARRIS,  
VETERAN OF THE YEAR FOR  
THE CITY OF DIXON, CALI-  
FORNIA

**HON. ELLEN O. TAUSCHER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mrs. TAUSCHER. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to James Harris, who received the Veteran of the Year award for the city of Dixon, California, on March 15, 2008.

James Harris, known as "Jim" by his friends, began his military career in 1961. Harris, now 72, served in the Air Force for 28 years, starting his illustrious career in the Air Force fire protection rescue unit. He retired from active duty in 1989, as a chief master sergeant, but to this day continues his service to those in uniform as an advocate for veterans affairs.

Harris is one of the original members for the Tuskegee Airmen, out of Travis Air Force Base. Additionally, he serves as the chairman of the committee that supports the new national cemetery in Dixon, CA.

In the wake of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, a large number of veterans are returning to a nation that is grateful for their service. However, it is men like Harris that ensure vet-

erans past and present receive needed care and are never forgotten.

Jim Harris' selfless service and dedication to duty makes him a valuable asset to active duty personnel serving overseas and also veterans of past wars. Jim once said "[n]o one really understands war until you've been in one. I feel it is my obligation to support them." He uses this as his motivation to continue serving past and present members of the military.

Veterans like Jim Harris were not asked to spend their time supporting the military. He does not do his job to win awards or to be recognized. He does it because of his past service in the military, for his family, and for all of the citizens in this great Nation. He feels obligated to continue to serve and we as a nation take his actions to heart—we will continue to honor those that serve in the military, now and forever.

I am also grateful of Mr. Harris' service as a member of my Veterans Advisory Board, where he provides great counsel on issues of import to all veterans.

Congratulations to Jim Harris on a job well done. We are grateful for your service in the past, present, and in the future. You are a true American hero.

IN HONOR OF ASKOUHY JALLYAN-  
VASSILIAN

**HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Askouhy Jallyan-Vassilian and her dedication to her community and the Armenian people. Mrs. Jallyan-Vassilian was a survivor of the genocide inflicted upon the Armenian people. She was the embodiment of the enduring human spirit.

Mrs. Jallyan-Vassilian was born Askouhy Jallyan on February 12, 1914, in Orfa, Turkey. Her mother, Khanem, had married in 1913 and was 18 years old when she gave birth to her only daughter. Khanem was widowed in 1915 when her husband, Nazaret, was murdered. Mrs. Jallyan-Vassilian was able to flee the horrors of genocide when she escaped with her mother to neighboring Syria.

Later, Mrs. Jallyan-Vassilian married her husband Missak Vassilian at the age of 19. Together they raised three sons and a daughter. She was also the proud grandmother of 10 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren. Her son, Asbed Vassilian, is currently a professor of chemistry at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, and is the head of that school's Armenian studies program.

On October 10, 2007, Mrs. Jallyan-Vassilian attended a markup session of the House of Representatives Committee on Foreign Affairs as it worked on a resolution recognizing the deplorable deprivation of human rights that occurred during the Armenian genocide. She had waited 92 years for the United States Congress to recognize the genocide and suffering that her people had endured at the hands of hate and intolerance.

Mrs. Jallyan-Vassilian passed away on February 27, 2008. She will be remembered for her devotion to her Armenian heritage and her commitment to the cause of those Armenians who suffered wanton violence and cruelty.

Madam Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in celebrating the life of Askouhy Jallyan-Vassilian. Her legacy will continue to serve as a reminder of the audacity of human resilience.

#### IN HONOR OF SPIKE LEE

#### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of distinguished producer, writer-director, educator and actor, Spike Lee, whose insightful, intelligent films have had a significant impact not only on the film industry but also on American political discourse.

The son of a jazz musician and teacher, Shelton Lee was born in 1957 in Atlanta, Georgia and later moved to Brooklyn, New York, the setting for many of his films and home of his production company, 40 Acres and a Mule Filmworks. Mr. Lee learned the value of film as a tool of social commentary and developed his film making skills while attending Morehouse College, where he made his first student film. He also took film courses at Clark Atlanta University and later earned a degree from Tish School of Arts graduate film program at New York University. Through his films and ability to capture the attention of audiences everywhere, Mr. Lee's films such as "Do the Right Thing" and "Malcolm X" have been used as vehicles to significantly raise levels of social awareness about a variety of important social and political issues that continue to plague American culture and society.

He has revolutionized the role of Black talent in cinema. Widely regarded as one of today's premier American filmmakers, Mr. Lee is a frontrunner in the "do it yourself school" of independent films. His most recent work, "When the Levees Broke," a ground breaking documentary focusing on the plight of Americans stranded in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina, has garnered rave reviews and is considered by many to be the definitive account of that catastrophic event.

Mr. Lee's trend-setting filmmaking, acting, and groundbreaking producing are just a few of the contributions he has made to greater American culture throughout his career. He has not only paved the way for numerous filmmakers, but has also positively changed public conversations on many social issues.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the talented and inspirational producer and director, Spike Lee, whose genius will continue to touch the lives of generations to come.

#### HONORING DERICK RAY BONNER

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Derick Ray Bonner of Kearney, Missouri. Derick is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of Amer-

ica, Troop 1397, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Derick has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Over the many years Derick has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Derick Ray Bonner for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### COMMENDING THE IMMIGRANT AND HIS CONTRIBUTION TO NEW YORK CITY'S VIBRANCY

#### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my delight that immigrants have carved out a sacrosanct place in the American story and accordingly introduce a New York Daily News piece showcasing that contribution. The vivacity and freshness that come with a heavy immigrant population has been a defining characteristic of New York City—and we have been the better for it. We define ourselves as a city of immigrants and recognize the importance of the Statue of Liberty as a symbol of what has helped make our city great. We live immersed in a potpourri of culture, all components distinctly American but each with flair and a kaleidoscopic beauty.

Our children have benefitted most from this variety, learning not just from their teachers, but from a diverse cast of neighbors and peers. The February 14 article—"Immigrants' Stories Not Foreign to Kids"—narrates the story of a New York classroom filled with Americans, through and through, all with ancestral ties to foreign nations. This newest generation will inherit this country far better equipped to be citizens of the world than generations before them. They are bound by a fervid love and allegiance to America, their home, married with a sensitivity and respect for our global neighbors.

It is a good day in America when our commonalities bind us, and our differences bring us that much closer.

#### IMMIGRANTS' STORIES NOT FOREIGN TO KIDS

It's a wonder immigrants in the U.S. haven't been blamed for global warming. After all, from the crumbling economy to increases in crime, they've been accused of just about every other of society's ills.

Which is why walking on Tuesday into teachers Joe Briscat and Kristen Grolimund's fourth-grade class at Public School 199 in Long Island City was so uplifting. Their students are lively, smart, curious and diverse, everything you would expect from New York kids. And as it can happen only in this city, particularly in Queens, they—or their parents—come from 11 different countries.

"Raise your hand if your parents came from a foreign country," the group of 24 9- and 10-year-olds was asked. All the students did.

There was Anita, a self-assured 9-year-old with big green eyes who wants to be a doctor. A Muslim, she was wearing a beautiful gold head scarf.

"My parents are from Yugoslavia, but I was born here. I am a citizen," she said proudly.

And there was Ángel, also 9, with a ready smile and mischievous eyes, who wants to grow up to be a pilot. He came from Mexico with his parents, as did Maura, who is tall for her 9 years and very shy.

"I want to be a teacher," she said.

Tenzin, 9, was born in Tibet and was not shy at all. And Shrabonti, 10, arrived in New York from Bangladesh and is proud of her good grades.

"I love school," she said.

That's why "A City of Immigrants—Dreams and Realities of Life in New York, 1840-2007," the history course Briscat and Grolimund are teaching, is so appropriate. For these kids, history is more than learning about events that took place many years before they were born.

For them, the history of New York is their own and that of their parents; it is the struggle and the hopes and dreams of people like themselves who make our city vibrant and alive and unique.

"Immigration has defined the history of New York City," reads the introduction to the curriculum of "A City of Immigrants," which was developed by the LaGuardia and Wagner Archives of LaGuardia Community College.

This became even more evident for the students on Tuesday, when three of the people they had been studying in class—all of whom have their immigrant experiences chronicled in the fourth-grade curriculum of "A City of Immigrants"—came to visit them.

Esther Levine, born in 1919, was the daughter of Morris Levine, one of millions of Eastern European Jews who fled religious persecution from the 1880s through the 1920s.

She told the children about her father, who became a traveling salesman, about Dora, her mother, and their life on Essex St. on a very different lower East Side of Manhattan.

Juan Rodriguez, a graphic designer at LaGuardia, a Dominican immigrant in his mid-30s, dreamed of being a baseball player. The kids were fascinated by his tale of playing pelota with a glove made from cardboard in his native country when he was about their age.

Fern Kahn, a former associate dean at LaGuardia, told the children about her life in New York in the 1950s, when she arrived from Jamaica to study at NYU. But it was when she spoke about her native country, and how she kept close ties with its culture, that the children could not stop asking questions.

"Many fourth- and fifth-graders, especially those in public schools in Queens, are members of these ethnic groups," said Richard Lieberman, the archives director. "By inviting Fern, Juan and Esther to speak to the class, the children will gain an understanding of their own place in history and the important role they play in American society."

They, these diverse New York children, will be the doctors, pilots and teachers of the future. And they will keep writing the history of our vibrant and unique city, which is, after all is said and done, their own story.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, March 12, I was unable to vote on roll No. 126

on the Motion to Adjourn. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on this motion.

HONORING WILLIAM D. WHITE OF  
NAPA, CALIFORNIA

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize my good friend and former high school classmate, William D. "Bill" White, who has retired from the Napa County District Attorney's Office after 35 years of dedicated public service in law enforcement.

Bill grew up near Lake Berryessa in Napa County and attended a small county elementary school that was variously housed in a county roads building, a laundromat, and a teacher's home before a proper elementary school was built. When he moved to the "city schools" in St. Helena, he prospered. He was on the high school football and track teams, was both vice president and president of the Student Body Council and Model U.N. representative.

Bill began his law enforcement career shortly after he graduated from St. Helena High School. He enrolled in Napa Valley College and soon thereafter joined the campus police force.

In 1973 Bill began working for the Calistoga Police Department as a patrolman and as a police dispatcher and later worked as a patrolman with the Suisun Police Department in Solano County. Bill joined the Napa County Sheriffs Department in 1977 and distinguished himself over the next 18 years as a patrol deputy, narcotics investigator, and homicide investigator.

He joined the Napa County District Attorney's Office as an investigator in 1995, later becoming supervising investigator in 2004 and chief investigator in 2005. In these years he became an expert in domestic violence and homicide investigations. In the course of his career he has worked on more than 3,000 domestic violence cases and became a court-approved expert in investigating these crimes.

Madam Speaker, Bill White has provided an invaluable service to the people of Napa County for many years, and it is fitting and proper to honor him today and wish him well in his retirement.

HONORING BRIGHAM MATTHEW  
BARZEE

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Brigham Matthew Barzee of Kansas City, Missouri. Brigham is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 2137, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Brigham has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the

many years Brigham has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Brigham Matthew Barzee for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, on March 12, 2008, I was unavoidably detained and was not able to record my votes for rollcall Nos. 135–142.

Had I been present I would have voted: rollcall No. 135—"yes"—On Motion to Table the Appeal of the Ruling of the Chair; rollcall No. 136—"yes"—On Approving the Journal; rollcall No. 137—"yes"—Kilpatrick of Michigan Substitute Amendment; rollcall No. 138—"yes"—Lee of California Substitute Amendment; rollcall No. 139—"present"—Call of the House; rollcall No. 140—"no"—Ryan of Wisconsin Substitute Amendment; rollcall No. 141—"yes"—Revising the congressional Budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2008, establishing the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2010 through 2013; and rollcall No. 142—"yes"—Recognizing the exceptional sacrifice of the 69th Infantry Regiment, known as the Fighting 69th, in support of the Global War on Terror.

#### HONORING WOMEN'S HISTORY ALL YEAR AROUND

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, today I rise to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the everlasting accomplishments and contributions of women as we look to celebrate National Women's History beyond the month of March.

This year's theme, as resolved by the House of Representatives on March 4, 2008, was to increase awareness and knowledge of women's involvement in history. It is an effort that is long overdue. Women have been pillars in our communities for centuries despite the sexism and discrimination that have limited their opportunities to succeed across all fields and disciplines. Their stories are undeniably woven in the fabric of our history, from colonial times up through today.

The fight of our sisters and mothers to overcome stereotypes and other obstacles has helped carry out the promise of our democracy and drawn us closer to a more perfect union. The names of those who have broken through the barriers of the status quo include Harriet Tubman, whose stewardship of the Un-

derground Railroad helped free hundreds of thousands of African American slaves; Elizabeth Cady Stanton, whose activism pushed open the ballot box and made it possible for all women to vote; Rosa Parks, whose refusal to move to the back of an Alabama bus jumpstarted the modern civil rights movement; and Dolores Huerta, who, as co-founder of the United Farm Workers Union, helped secure fair wages and working conditions for thousands of rural and urban workers.

In our very own House of Representatives, the list of heroes includes the first woman in the U.S. Congress, Rep. Jeannette Rankin, and Shirley Chisholm, the first black woman elected to the U.S. Congress who later become the first female and black Presidential candidate. It includes our very Speaker, NANCY PELOSI, who last year became the first woman elected to lead this grand Chamber.

My district, New York's 15th Congressional District, is not without its share of accomplished heroines. It is home to accomplished community leaders like Dr. Ramona Hernández, Director of the Dominican Studies Institute at the City University of New York; technology advocate Dr. Georgina Falú, founder and president of the Falú Foundation; prominent Harlem physician and activist Dr. Muriel Marjorie Petioni; and Susan Susman, founder of the Preserve West Park North Coalition, who is an active member of the Mitchell Lama Residents Coalition and fierce housing activist. These are just some of the extraordinary residents whose accomplishments sometimes go unnoticed by the media but who are working continually to improve the lives of their families and their communities.

So Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing the contributions made and realities faced by women in the month of March and every day of the year. It is an effort that will bring us one step closer to a Nation that not only values equality and justice but is also firmly committed to securing it for all.

#### REBUILDING AMERICA'S FUTURE

**HON. RUSS CARNAHAN**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, with an economic slowdown looming and the war in Iraq draining billions of dollars in public resources every week, a strong Federal budget will give families the help they need to weather tough times and prepare for a prosperous future.

A budget that invests in America's future will direct federal funding to where it's needed most, especially health care, education, housing, nutrition, job training and other priorities that promote economic growth and expand opportunity.

A budget resolution that invests in America's future will include bold new investments in high-quality, affordable health care; strong public education; infrastructure and the development of clean energy sources to end our dependence on foreign oil. It also means an end to the costly war in Iraq, and the repeal of President Bush's irresponsible tax breaks for those who don't need or want them.

We should also be providing tax relief and help to struggling families and veterans; increase homeland security funding; and reject the President's cuts to our first responders.

A budget that invests in America's future will succeed only with broad support in Congress. I encourage my distinguished colleagues to support this proposed budget to rebuild America's future.

#### FISA AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

**HON. RON PAUL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 14, 2008*

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to this latest attempt to undermine our personal liberties and violate the Fourth Amendment of the Constitution. This bill will allow the federal government to engage in the bulk collection of American citizens' communications. In effect, it means that any American may have his electronic communications monitored without a search warrant.

As such, the bill clearly violates the Fourth Amendment, which states:

"The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized."

The assurances in this bill that Americans will not have their communications monitored without warrant are unconvincing. The bill merely states that the government should do its best to avoid monitoring Americans if possible. We have seen how meaningless such qualified prohibitions have been as we recount the abuses over the past several years.

Just today, we read in the news that the federal government has massively abused its ability to monitor us by improperly targeting Americans through the use of "national security letters." Apparently some 60 percent of the more than 50,000 national security letters targeted Americans, rather than foreign terrorists, for surveillance.

This is what happens when we begin down the slippery slope of giving up our constitutional rights for the promise of more security. When we come to accept that the government can spy on us without a court order we have come to accept tyranny.

I urge my colleagues to reject this and all legislation that allows Americans to be spied on without a properly issued warrant.

HONORING ZACHARY ANTHONY LAYTON

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Zachary Anthony Layton of Platte City, Missouri. Zachary is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by tak-

ing an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1249, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Zachary has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Zachary has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Zachary Anthony Layton for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN RECOGNITION OF PRISCILLA RAKESTRAW, 24TH TRAILBLAZER AWARD RECIPIENT

**HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE**

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize Ms. Priscilla Rakestraw, who is the recipient of The Agenda for Delaware Women's 24th Trailblazer Award. Priscilla was selected for this award because of her pioneer roles in formulating corporate policy, community service, politics, and Government.

During her career in human resources at the DuPont Company, Priscilla was instrumental in developing substance abuse and sexual harassment programs for DuPont. These programs gained recognition nationwide, eventually resulting in their adoption at DuPont locations throughout the United States. Due to Priscilla's foresight and persistence, DuPont was able to provide assistance aimed at eradicating harmful behaviors in the workplace.

After leaving DuPont, Priscilla continued to use her skills and passion as a leader to advance causes for organizations she feels strongly about. She is active in raising funds for various community, church, and charitable organizations. As development director for Wilmington College, Priscilla played a vital part in raising funds to expand the university by acquiring new college sites. As development director for the Delaware Breast Cancer Coalition, she has raised funds for a new, more conveniently located facility. She has served on a number of boards, including Goodwill, the Ministry of Caring, the East Side Charter School, and the annual auction for the Emmanuel Dining Room, where she raised over \$500,000 to provide food to those in need.

An advocate for women in politics and Government, Priscilla has long encouraged women to pursue positions in politics, she herself having extensive experience in the political arena. Priscilla has held leadership positions in more than 120 campaigns, both at the national and State levels. She is presently the longest serving member of the Republican National Committee, having held the position of Delaware's Republican National Committee-woman since the age of 27. She will attend the National Convention this year, as usual, and is a member of the Arrangements Committee and chair of the Convention's Entertainment Committee.

I want to publicly thank, recognize and acknowledge Priscilla Rakestraw for her many

years of service and numerous contributions to the State of Delaware. She is an excellent role model for those who aspire to serve their community through both public office and private service. She is a true trailblazer in every respect.

HONORING MARGARET TRUMAN DANIELS AND HER LIFETIME OF ACHIEVEMENTS

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Margaret Truman Daniels, the daughter of a great American President and a popular mystery novelist whose source of grace and inimitable talent was no mystery. Her strong-willed parents, President Harry S. Truman and his wife Bess, instilled in her a depth of character and a penchant for independence that remained with her a lifetime. She was their beloved only child who made a name for herself in the entertainment business—staking a claim in the worlds of music, television, radio, and books, and even establishing her own brand of critically-acclaimed Washington-based mystery novels.

She was a longtime New York resident, and we are proud to have called her one of our own. The breadth of her talent and the legacy she sought to preserve set her apart, and that is what we celebrate today.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SPRINGFIELD, MISSOURI, POLICE DEPARTMENT

**HON. ROY BLUNT**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. BLUNT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Springfield, Missouri, Police Department as this year it celebrates 150 years of distinguished service to a grateful community.

In truth, the department actually traces its origins as far back as 1829, when Campbell township, which would later become Springfield, was laid out and initially settled. Twenty years later, the community's first constable was appointed by a population consisting of a small group of families living on the outer edges of the wilderness. Law and order, of sorts, having been established, the population of Springfield grew rapidly as more families sought new challenges and opportunities in the beauty of the Ozarks.

To keep up with a growing settlement, Springfield formally created a small police force in 1858—consisting of a marshal and two junior officers. Thus began in earnest what would later be recognized as one of the most effective and efficient community law enforcement agencies in the country.

By the end of the 19th century, the chief of the Springfield Police Department was collecting a stout salary of \$50 a month, and officers were making a whole lot less. And if the pay didn't scare them away, the department's

standard uniform sometimes did: blue serge uniforms with English-style police helmets—attire strikingly similar to British “Bobbies.” Officers walked a beat 12 hours a day, 7 days a week, every day of the year. It would be 50 years and the passage of new Federal work laws before officers saw a 5-day work week, and another extended period of time before Springfield voters would approve the first pension plan for police officers and firemen.

The first telephone arrived at the Springfield headquarters in 1898, and 2 years later a transport vehicle, dubbed the “Black Maria” and the “Hoodlum Wagon,” was put into use. The first automobile, a Studebaker, didn’t roll into the station until 1910—but all beats would be covered by foot patrol into the 1960s.

Under the leadership of Lieutenant Sam Robards, the Springfield Police entered a new era in 1940 by establishing an integrated police academy, creating a gun range, upgrading its weapons cache, and making mandatory a program of in-service training. The new gadgets of the 20th century that changed everyday life in America also enhanced the abilities and effectiveness of the police department.

Nearly 100 years after the first patrol car went into service, modern patrol vehicles today are enclosed, climate controlled, and equipped with laptop computers, cellular telephones, and radios that provide instant contact between officers and commanders. As one would expect, this technology has had a real and immediate impact.

Last year, the Springfield Police Department responded to more than 100,000 calls for service and investigated more than 15,000 reported crimes. Just to give you some perspective, traffic enforcement didn’t begin as an obligation of law enforcement until after World War I—with one Springfield officer, on foot, directing horseless carriages at the corner of Jefferson Avenue and St. Louis Street. The modern day Springfield Police force worked 9,000 traffic accidents last year and issued more than 53,000 traffic citations.

Today, officers use small, highly sophisticated surveillance equipment to both prevent crimes and prosecute criminals. Cutting-edge science in forensic laboratories is now an essential part of crime solving. Officers of 1858 would marvel at the sophistication of the 21st century law enforcement technologies being employed every day by the Springfield P.D.

Other new scientific advances prompted the creation of the Bureau of Identification, which started taking fingerprints and photographs of all suspects in 1925. In the latter part of the century, the six-shooter was replaced by 9mm semiautomatic handguns; automatic weapons and bulletproof vests were added and a tactical weapons squad became permanent additions to the force. Mace, batons, and riot helmets were issued for the first time in the 1960s. To respond to the rising tide of illegal drugs, the Springfield Police Department created a narcotics unit in the 1970s.

Other innovations in law enforcement were realized in 1959, when the department first formed the Police Dog Unit, P.D.U., with three officers and three dogs. The unit was disbanded in 1979, only to be reestablished in 1994. Women became part of the Springfield Police Department in 1914 when Margaret Hull was enlisted as the first commissioned policewoman, charged with handling female prisoners. Sixty-two years later, the first female officer was sworn in to work as a patrol

officer with her male counterparts. Black officers began their service on the police force starting in 1874 and have continued to serve their community with bravery and honor ever since.

The Springfield Police Department began housing prisoners in 1874, welcoming their clients in a 15x30 foot wooden building with a dirt floor. The jail was located immediately west of the downtown business district, and is the site of the present day Calaboose, home of the department’s Police Museum and Park Central Substation. At the turn of the 20th century, it wasn’t unusual to see intoxicated partygoers hauled to jail in a wheelbarrow. Tough to get a DUI on three wheels, after all. But after nearly 130 years in the jail business, the Springfield Police Department transferred all incarceration responsibilities to the Greene County jail complex.

The department headquarters have moved several times over the past century and a half—each time in response to a growing population and the demand for more police services. From near Park Central Square and West College Street in the late 1800s and finally into two modern stations on East Chestnut Expressway near city hall and on Battlefield Road, police headquarters are designed to be high security, limited-access facilities to accommodate the logistical needs of a growing police force—and an ever-growing community.

In 2003, the Committee of the International Association of Chiefs of Police announced the Springfield Police Department was a finalist in a worldwide competition recognizing outstanding community policing initiatives—a first for any police force in the State of Missouri. That same year, the Springfield Police Department was granted full accreditation status by a national commission for the third consecutive year.

As much as things have changed over 150 years, some things have not. Just as in 1858, officers put their lives on the line for their friends, families, and neighbors each and every day. And just as in the past, the community of Springfield thanks those officers for their service, and forever honors the heroes that have fallen in the line of duty.

Though not long, the list of officers killed while on the job reminds us every day of the solemn commitment others have made—and continue to make—to safeguard our security. Starting with Campbell Township Constable Jacob Baughman in 1871, nine Springfield officers have made the ultimate sacrifice. Four officers were killed in the 20th century’s single deadliest law enforcement shoot-out on record—referred to by most as “The Young Massacre.” Also killed in that epic 1932 battle with the Young brothers was the Greene County sheriff, as well as his deputy.

Today, our police officers serve as our first line of defense against a new and evolving threat—terrorism. The world is a much more dangerous place today than it was in 1829, and there are those—both homegrown and foreign—who would like nothing more than to visit harm upon the American people. It will be local police who likely detect and face that threat first.

For all they have done over the last 150 years—and continue to do to this very day—I want to express my sincere appreciation and thanks to the Springfield Police Department, and congratulate it on reaching this historic

milestone. I also want to urge my fellow citizens not to forget to thank each officer they see for the important work they do each and every day.

#### HONORING RONALD THOMAS CUNNINGHAM

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ronald Thomas Cunningham of Blue Springs, Missouri. Ronald is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1763, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Ronald has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Ronald has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Ronald Thomas Cunningham for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### ASSESSING THE 2008 OUTLOOK FOR THE CARIBBEAN

#### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the challenges the Caribbean faces in this coming year by introducing the editorial, “Looking to 2008 for Improved Economic and Social Conditions,” published in the New York CARIB News on January 8. The article posits that the area will have to rely on the economic gains of the last few years, as it faces rising inflation and an economy that will prove to be less robust. It hails the Caribbean Single Market and Economy as vital and argues that efforts to strengthen it should help the region stave off the grim economic picture. It notes that the impact of rising crime, particularly homicides, merits acknowledgement and solutions, perhaps by tackling those social conditions—a pervasive drug trade, the flurry of guns, and poverty—that are fueling that rise.

As steadfast allies of the Caribbean, we friends of the Caribbean in this House should stay abreast of all developments out of the region, with a ready hand, an open heart, and an attentive ear.

LOOKING TO 2008 FOR IMPROVED ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS, CARIBBEAN REGION EXPECTS TO CONSOLIDATE GAINS OF RECENT YEARS

The World Bank has warned of a slowdown in economic growth in the Caribbean while the United Nations considers it the Year of the Potato at a time when food prices throughout the region, indeed, the world have gone through the roof.

By the middle of the first month of the year, Barbadians would have selected a political party to run the country for the next

five years while Grenada's electorate would have a chance sometime soon to decide who should govern the Spice Isle.

What else can we expect in the year 2008?

Except for energy rich Trinidad and Tobago, the economic picture of the region isn't expected to robust. Whether in Jamaica, the Bahamas, Grenada, St. Kitts-Nevis, Barbados, St. Lucia, Haiti, or the Dominican Republic the forecast calls for expansion that would hardly cause elation, less than four per cent. With energy and food prices seemingly spiraling often out of control, inching towards record highs, the various countries may have to consolidate economic gains of prior years, instead of reaching for the stars.

The next 12 months should see rising inflation as consumers throughout the English, French, Spanish and Dutch-speaking nations and territories are forced to dig deeper into their pockets for meat, cereals, rice and other essential items as global demand outstrips supply. As importing countries, Caribbean states, like the rest of the developing world are feeling and will continue to feel the full brunt of the impact of rising prices as they have to spend more, much more to buy the same amount of essential supplies they paid for in 2006.

The problem isn't difficult to spot.

While food accounts for only about one-tenth of the consumer price index in the United States, Canada and Europe and prices are expected to rise at about five per cent in 2008, the poor nations, the Caribbean among them, food accounts for almost 50 per cent or more of the consumer price index. In Nigeria and Bangladesh it's about two-thirds. That's why the big battle governments and central bankers in the Caribbean are expected to fight in 2008 as prices continue to rise is going to be limiting wage increases, thus creating continuing inflation. Don't be caught off guard, then, if central banks tighten the money supply.

But food and energy prices aren't the only economic worries in the Caribbean.

Coming on the heels of signing the controversial economic partnership agreement with the European Union, Caricom states and the Dominican Republic are entering a new relationship with Europe, one which is putting the final nails in the coffin of preferential trade. First it was the special arrangement for bananas produced in the Caribbean, Africa and the Pacific. Then it was sugar's special price being phased out. Now, they must perform in a different trade and investment climate that would force the nations to open up their markets to more European goods. Admittedly, they will have a grace period in which to do so, depending on the commodity and the product.

And that's happening at a time when Caricom is moving ahead with its efforts to strengthen the Caribbean Single Market and Economy, CSME. Having officially launched the Single Market, the "economy" portion of the integration effort may prove to be the biggest challenge as countries seek ways to finance their continued development through taxes and other measures on intra-regional trade. That's where plans for the Caribbean Development Fund come in this year. With an anticipated pot of more than \$200 million that would be earmarked to finance economic and social expansion in the less developed states, the members of the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States in particular see the Fund as a carrot that would encourage them to commit fully to the CSME.

Make no mistake about it. The CSME is vital to the region's future. Without it, the small states would virtually be ignored as players in global trade negotiations. They would be treated as Lilliputians which would

have to take the crumbs that the large and medium size economies allow to fall from their tables. That's why this year is going to be crucial for Caricom as it seeks to take the CSME to a higher level.

That's not all.

Mushrooming crime rates, especially homicides, are a cause for alarm, not simply in Jamaica which has one of the world's highest murder rates per head of population, but in Trinidad and Tobago and the Bahamas where hundreds of people lost their lives at the hands of murderers in 2007. Barbados too is beginning to worry and 2008 may prove to be decisive, meaning if it can't keep a lid on lawlessness and killings. Just the other day, a highly respected retired senior civil servant, Kenrick Hutson, was shot dead at his home while sitting on the terrace, within earshot of his wife and daughter.

The danger for the Caribbean is that unless the various destinations get a grip on crime, it could spill over into the lucrative tourism industry. The countries have become increasingly dependent on visitors coming to the region in search of tranquility and if they are made to feel unsafe, they simply would find a safe haven elsewhere for their vacations. Just as important, or even more so, is the impact of crime on the local populations. Far too many nationals of Caribbean states are becoming victims of crime perpetrated by their neighbors or those who live not too far away. Security forces, such as the police, need better training, more sophisticated equipment and eager cooperation from the public.

Fueled by a combination of the drug trade, a flood of guns, poverty and criminal deportees from the U.S., Britain, Canada and other countries, crime can and does adversely affect the quality of people's lives, heighten fear and force governments to divert resources from much needed social services into law enforcement. So, instead of spending on education, health care and programs for the youth and the elderly, governments would find that in 2008 they have to hire more police officers, prosecutors and prison staff.

If there is a consolation in this unsettling picture, it is that the Caribbean is not among the worst regions of the world. The Middle East and various parts of Asia are starting the New Year with crises that make many of us shudder, wondering what the world is coming to after the awful events of 9/11.

Apart from the atrocious conditions in Iraq, Lebanon, Sri Lanka, Darfur, the border between Eritrea and Ethiopia and Zimbabwe, Pakistan ended the old year and welcomed 2008 with blood on its hands. This nuclear nation bade farewell to 2007 in a tragic fashion, the assassination of Benazir Bhutto, a former Prime Minister, an appalling act that triggered rioting that led to the deaths of at least 50 people.

Bhutto, a member of one of Pakistan's wealthiest and most powerful families, recently returned to her birthplace after spending eight years in exile in London and the United Arab Emirates to avoid prosecution on corruption charges. She was immediately greeted with a horrendous suicide attack on her entourage that killed more than 150 people.

The former Prime Minister went back home after reaching an agreement with Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf, who until recently was also head of the Army. It allowed her to participate in the upcoming parliamentary elections and hopefully share power with the newly re-elected President. It was a dangerous mission from the start. She was seen by anti-American extremists as a tool of the United States, and therefore an enemy of Muslim radicals. In addition, Presi-

dent Musharraf, who had previously toppled the government of Nawaz Sharif in order to take control of the country, has shown himself to be a person whose word isn't worth the paper it is written on. He went back on most of the promises he made to Bhutto, thus setting the stage for the mistrust and the instability which culminated in her death at the hands of a young man who blew himself up after firing shots at her. She was destined to play a powerful role in her country once again but that was not to be.

An international independent investigation into her killing must be undertaken to bring the perpetrators of her assassination to the bar of justice. Without such an inquiry the Musharraf administration would remain under suspicion as a brutal and murderous co-conspirator.

Bhutto's sad end in Pakistan is a sharp reminder to all of us how dangerous some places in the world have become and it tells a story of the Caribbean's good fortune in being a politically stable region where governments are far more interested in upgrading people's daily lives than possessing the bomb and remaining in office at all cost.

Our hearts go out to those Ms. Bhutto has left behind, especially her children.

We didn't believe she was the answer for what ails Pakistan. During her years at the helm, Pakistan was a politically divided country where well connected politicians and families lived off the fat of the land, like feudal overlords while more than 40 million people lived in abject poverty.

Another thing. U.S. policy in the Indian sub-continent is now in shambles. The Bush administration unwisely encouraged Bhutto to go back to Pakistan, knowing that her family's enemies in and out of the army and the radical community wouldn't rest until they had done her harm. Unfortunately, they succeeded.

The Bush White House embraced Musharraf, whose dictatorial tendencies are well known. His lack of respect for the independence of the judiciary and the press should have made him a pariah in Washington's eyes. But the Republicans looked the other way because of its "war on terrorism."

Washington's contradictory policies are evident in its warm relations with Musharraf and its disdain for Venezuela's leader Hugo Chavez. Although the Latin American President was voted into office by wide margins in free and fair elections, the U.S. labeled him a dictator and joined forces with his enemies to try to discredit him.

Perhaps, 2008, President Bush's final year in office may bring some meaningful and positive changes in his foreign and economic policy.

An important change would be its stance on the issue of Antigua, Internet gambling and the World Trade Organization. The WTO's recent decision to give Antigua the greenlight to secure compensation following the U.S. high-handed attack on a legitimate business that once employed thousands of Antiguanians was probably not what the government in St. John's wanted. But it is a step in the right direction.

The Baldwin Spencer government should be applauded for its tenacity and its ability to remind Washington that the law of the jungle, might is right, can backfire. The U.S. acted to outlaw Internet gaming in Antigua and other countries while allowing gambling at home, in the form of lotteries, off-track betting on horse races and in casinos in Las Vegas, Atlantic City and other parts of the U.S.

We trust that the U.S. abide by the WTO ruling and make 2008 the year when it ended its unworthy battles against a tiny neighbor which wants nothing more than to boost its economy and improve living the conditions of its people.

This year should also see New York playing the role of host to Caribbean Presidents and Prime Ministers who are due in the City in June to meet with business and political leaders and the large Caribbean immigrant community.

U.S. Congressman Charles Rangel, Chairman of the powerful Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives, who is perhaps the region's best friend on Capitol Hill is expected to do his part in making the meetings a success.

They are to be a follow-up to last year's Caribbean conference in Washington which culminated with sessions with Mr. Rangel and other members of his Committee, the Black Caucus and President George Bush.

Clearly, then, 2008 promises to be a year of action.

### HONORING WILLIAM H. EASTBURN III

#### HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of William H. Eastburn III. Mr. Eastburn passed away on March 7, 2008, following a long and courageous battle with cancer. Mr. Eastburn lived an honorable and noteworthy life, dedicating himself to helping those in his community.

Mr. Eastburn began his career of service to others as a prosecutor at the Bucks County District Attorney's office and then later at the state Attorney General's office. After his work as a prosecutor, Mr. Eastburn became a fourth generation member of the law firm of Eastburn and Gray, Bucks County's largest law firm.

In addition to his distinguished legal career, Mr. Eastburn will be long remembered for his philanthropic work within Bucks County. Mr. Eastburn founded and served as chairman of the board for the Voice of Reason, an organization dedicated to ending gun violence. He served for several years as the chairman of both the Bucks County Commission on Violence Prevention Task Force and the Bucks County Implementation Commission on Violence Prevention. Mr. Eastburn also dedicated his time to the Heritage Conservancy, Western Health Foundations, First Service Bank, and the Free Clinic of Doylestown Hospital.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Eastburn spent his life working to improve, not just Bucks County but the larger American community as well. He established and participated in various organizations that benefited people all across the United States. Along with his wife Connie, Mr. Eastburn helped found the Americans for Native Americans, which raised money and gathered supplies for Native Americans living in the Southwest United States. Mr. Eastburn helped organize and lead the Bucks-Mont Bay Waveland Katrina Relief Project which raised over \$2 million for the hurricane ravaged area of Hancock County, Mississippi.

As his outstanding work and achievements show, William Eastburn III dedicated his life to helping those in his community and beyond. Through his lifelong efforts, Mr. Eastburn has transformed Bucks County and America for the better. Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Mr. Eastburn for his lifetime of extraordinary accomplishments.

### TRIBUTE TO PAUL FACCHINA SR.

#### HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, today I want to commend Paul Facchina, Sr., for his outstanding contributions to the natural heritage of the State of Maryland. Mr. Facchina has made his name as one of Maryland's leading businessmen—but I suspect that he will be remembered just as much for his wonderful generosity. He has left our State a gift whose value cannot be measured in dollars: the gift of open, unspoiled land.

Most recently, Mr. Facchina made headlines with his donation of 179 acres in St. Mary's County to the Maryland Environmental Trust. No doubt, he could have sold development rights on that land for a significant profit. But by placing it under a conservation easement, he ensured that it will remain pristine and largely undeveloped. Wetlands and woods will stand in place of housing tracts. And our State's environmental health will benefit: By including vital waterfront land in his grant, Mr. Facchina contributed to our efforts to clean up and preserve the endangered Chesapeake Bay.

At the same time, the grant strengthens one of southern Maryland's most valuable economic resources, the Patuxent River Naval Air Station. By protecting the buffer surrounding the Navy base, Mr. Facchina's donation helps ensure that the Naval Air Station will remain open and viable, creating jobs in St. Mary's County and driving the local economy. In cases like this one, conservation often proves to be good business.

So I thank Paul Facchina, not only for his most recent gift, but for a long and proud legacy of giving that includes an historic plantation, headwater streams of the St. Mary's River, and the forest habitats of Maryland birds. In all, his family has entrusted more than 2,100 acres to the environmental care of our State. When Maryland residents enjoy that open land, and all of its benefits, I hope they will remember whom to thank.

I also want to take this opportunity to recognize the excellent work of the Maryland Environmental Trust, which will take care of that land as part of its more than 112,000 acres. Since 1967, the Trust has worked to help keep our State beautiful, and to help landowners preserve their piece of it. For more than four decades, landowners have relied on the Trust to watch over the legacies they leave, and I'm sure that they will be able to do so for decades to come.

### ON RISING VIOLENT CRIME IN THE CARIBBEAN AND WHAT SHOULD BE DONE ABOUT IT

#### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the pressing matter of increasing violent crime in the Caribbean and to introduce a New York CARIB News editorial that eloquently elucidates the problems and

speaks to possible solutions. A conflux of drugs, guns, disaffected youth, and poverty has gripped the area's island nations, particularly Jamaica, with a world-leading 59 homicides for every 100,000 people. This is an issue neither solely endemic, nor of sole concern, to the Caribbean. The international community, rather, must accept its contribution to the problem, in the way of an aggressive international drug trade and the rampant sale of small arms. The Caribbean itself must do its part to draw its youth away from criminality and hopelessness, and invest in their educations and financial security.

GUNS, DRUGS AND MURDER A LETHAL COMBINATION IN CARIBBEAN—WHERE IS THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AND GUN MAKERS?

“The Caribbean Sun, sea and murder.”

That unsettling headline atop an equally disturbing story about violence in the Caribbean was summarized in a shocking fashion by *The Economist*, one of the English language's leading weekly news publications.

“Indeed,” it stated, “the Caribbean better known for its blue skies, cricket and rum punch, is the world leader in violent crime.”

While that may be something of an overstatement, the fact of the matter is that the picture is deeply troubling and needs urgent attention, not simply by Caribbean governments but the international community.

Some numbing figures tell much of the story about homicides in a part of the world where people and their government are wedded to law and order, tranquility and democracy. With 59 homicides for every 100,000 persons in the country, Jamaica heads the list as “the world's most murderous country,” according to the magazine. Some distance away were St. Vincent & the Grenadines 36; Belize 33; St. Kitts-Nevis 32; Trinidad and Tobago 30; the Bahamas 25; and Antigua & Barbuda 23 for every 100,000 persons.

It's not difficult to figure out why this tragic situation has evolved in a part of the world that's known as a bit of paradise on earth. Drugs, guns and disaffected youth sum up the story. Add poverty to the mix and the situation comes into proper perspective.

The Caribbean has been the soft underbelly of the international drug trade for decades. Illegal narcotics, especially cocaine and some heroin are ferried through the region from South America by Colombia, Bolivia and Venezuela and destined for North America and Europe.

In addition, some Caribbean states, including Jamaica and St. Vincent & the Grenadines are considered by law enforcement authorities in the United States and Canada as significant marijuana growers.

Because guns and ammunition are companions in the nefarious drug trade, it shouldn't come as a surprise to learn there is a flood of small arms in the region. Almost every country has reported a rising incidence of the use of guns in criminal activity. Law enforcement authorities are reporting more and more cases of drug-related offenses in which guns are a factor. Next are the armed robberies; kidnappings, shootings, and as the story indicated homicides.

The countries seem unable to stem the drug tide and the importation of guns. With wide open waterways and beaches, most of them find it virtually impossible to put a dent in violent crime. Perhaps the most dramatic and frightening incident in recent years was the massacre in Lussignan, the East Coast Demerara village of East Indians late last month. Eleven men, women and children were slaughtered in their homes by criminals. The killing of a soldier by a merciless gang brought the death toll to an appalling dozen persons. What then can be and must be done?

Caribbean governments are already diverting scarce resources from education, health, roads, bridges, services to the elderly and the youth in order to boost law enforcement. They recognize two things: (1) their nationals and businesses must be able to feel safe on the streets, stores, offices, factories and homes, and (2) the vital tourism industry can be undermined if visitors stop going to the beautiful destinations because of a fear of crime.

Interestingly, crime and violence aren't always seen by the populace as pressing issues. They barely registered on the political radar screens during recently general election campaigns in the Bahamas, Jamaica and Barbados. But in Trinidad and Tobago where kidnappings and killings drive fear into people's hearts, there are growing calls for the use of capital punishment as something of a deterrent.

Already, the prisons in almost every nation are overcrowded and except for the acquisition of sophisticated equipment, more powerful guns and better training of cops, there is nothing that the countries have not already tried.

Crime has featured prominently at the summits of the region's heads of government and the subject is expected to be raised again.

But the international community must also do its part. Until the United States and Europe in particular address the issue of the demand for illegal narcotics, the Caribbean would remain highly vulnerable. Washington must also re-evaluate its stance at the United Nations and elsewhere on the sale of small arms. The Caribbean isn't a producer or exporter of guns, yet deadly weapons are in the hands of people everywhere. At a time when the U.S. is said to be fighting terrorists at home, most of the guns being used to kill people next door in its neighbors have a made in U.S. label on them.

The world's rich countries can ill-afford to turn a blind eye to the peril caused by the twin evils of guns and drugs.

Of course, the Caribbean must deal with the problem of disaffected poor youths, most of them males, who have seemingly lost their way and have little desire for an education that would enable them to become productive citizens. That's a dangerous trend because in the years ahead, the islands and coastal states would have hundreds of thousands of people who are unprepared for the challenges of life in a highly sophisticated world. That would heighten frustration and can lead to more crime.

Bringing back hanging isn't going to solve anything. The death penalty has never been an effective deterrent to curb crime.

The international community must consider rising crime in developing countries as a global issue that requires financial and other resources. The poorer states too must join hands to tackle the problem.

Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago and Barbados are acting wisely in strengthening their coast guard and other security forces to "choke the influx of drugs, and guns," recognizing that success in a few countries would simply mean the narcotics merchants would find another route to ply their trade.

#### HONORING PAUL THOMAS MORGAN

##### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Paul Thomas Morgan of Lee's Summit, Missouri. Paul is a very special

young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1221, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Paul has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Paul has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Paul Thomas Morgan for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN

##### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Human Rights Campaign, defender of civil rights for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people, and force for fundamental fairness and equality for all.

It is with great honor that I recognize this important organization tonight during its fifteenth annual Human Rights Campaign Gala Dinner and Dance. Founded in 1980, Human Rights Campaign initial goal was to support candidates running for Congress who they recognized as unequivocal supporters of civil rights and fairness of all people. Twenty years on, this organization has grown into a national leader in the pro-equality movement. Today, HRC represents over seven hundred thousand members and supporters as the largest national gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender civil rights organization. HRC works in Congress and the private sector to gain necessary protections for GLBT workers as well as to successfully raise this Nation's awareness of the need for protecting everyone's civil rights, regardless of gender and sexual orientation. The Human Rights Campaign has shown its ability to unite diverse communities to strive, lobby and fight for equality for all people.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing the Human Rights Campaign, a leader in promoting the rights of all people and as an important force in empowering and inspiring people and communities nation wide.

#### HONORING JERRY HERRIN RETIREMENT

##### HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jerry Herrin on the occasion of his retirement as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Grapevine Chamber of Commerce.

Jerry Herrin was born in Arp, Texas in 1939. Mr. Herrin graduated from Arp High School and attended the University of Texas in Aus-

tin. Mr. Herrin is married to Nancy. He has three children: Lisa, Mike, and Brad. He is the proud grandfather of five grandchildren: Jesse, Ashley, Keller, Michael, and Andee.

Jerry Herrin began his distinguished career working on the staff of the Austin Chamber of Commerce from 1963 to 1967. Mr. Herrin took his first job as a Chamber CEO in 1968 at the New Braunfels Chamber of Commerce. Over the years, he has served as president and CEO of numerous Chambers including Conroe, Garland, and Temple.

Jerry Herrin has served as president and CEO of Grapevine Chamber of Commerce since 1985. Mr. Herrin has dedicated himself to the betterment of the Grapevine community promoting area businesses, and supporting growth of new establishments, for over twenty-three years. Under his tenure, Mr. Herrin has secured dedicated members, many who serve on its committees and board of directors.

Jerry Herrin has provided tremendous support for his community and his outstanding leadership is worthy of recognition. I wish Mr. Herrin a happy, healthy retirement, and a well deserved change of pace. It is an honor to represent him in the 24th District of Texas.

#### HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF ELIZABETH STINSON

##### HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise with great pleasure to honor a visionary, diplomat, activist, and advocate for peace on the occasion of her receipt of the 2008 Jack Green Civil Liberties Award by the American Civil Liberties Union of Sonoma County. Elizabeth Stinson's work with the Peace and Justice Center of Sonoma County and her lifetime dedication to human rights have left an enduring legacy.

In 2001, after several years work with the United Nations, where she still retains a position with the UN's International Indigenous Forum, Elizabeth became director of the Peace and Justice Center, helping those Sonoma County residents who are victims of our Nation's most challenging conflicts.

In Santa Rosa, for example, Elizabeth has mediated inter-gang disputes while leading campaigns to end escalating local violence. In 2002, recognizing the need to provide youth with nonviolent choices, she founded the High School Outreach Peace Education, or HOPE, project to educate them about their rights as students, their rights regarding the military, and service learning and internship opportunities.

In addition, through Elizabeth's coordination with courts in three counties, the Peace and Justice Center was established as an authorized diversion program provider for convicted and at-risk teens and young adults.

Under her direction, the Peace and Justice Center has also gained national attention for supporting troops who need a military separation for reasons such as untreated combat-related trauma, repeated deployments, recruiter misrepresentations, and other compelling mental and physical issues. Since the beginning of the occupation of Iraq 5 years ago, Elizabeth and her team of volunteers at the

center have successfully negotiated 850 administrative discharges.

Elizabeth's work continues to have national effect as she provides counseling support to troops testifying at the Winter Soldier hearings in D.C. At an upcoming GI national retreat, she will conduct training on post-traumatic stress for hotline counselors.

Aside from her lifelong international work for human rights, Elizabeth is mother to three adult children and Sanctuary Mom to five, whose father was executed by death squads after helping to found El Salvador's Human Rights Commission.

Madam Speaker, Elizabeth's commitment to the rights of the vulnerable has rightly earned her the 2008 Jack Green Civil Liberties Award. I am honored to have Elizabeth Stinson as my constituent. I commend her for her work and for the well-deserved award being bestowed on her by the ACLU of Sonoma County.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. GORDON  
HOWE

**HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a living legend in Detroit ice hockey, Mr. Gordon "Gordie" Howe, as he celebrates his 80th birthday today.

Mr. Hockey, as Howe is universally recognized for his greatness on the ice, sprang from humble beginnings. Born in Floral, Saskatchewan, Canada, in the midst of the Great Depression, Howe, who was the fifth of nine children, grew up in poverty and was often sick due to poor nutrition. A significant milestone in Howe's life came at the tender age of 5, when his mother purchased some used belongings from a neighbor, which included his first pair of skates.

Howe immersed himself in hockey, day in and day out, using anything he could find, be it a puck, a tennis ball, or even clumps of dirt. While he didn't make the local youth hockey team, Howe didn't let this discourage him, and worked hard to develop into an excellent skater. During summers, Howe would work with his father at construction sites where the work helped him develop the exceptional strength that would give him one of the hardest shots in hockey. By the time he was 15, Howe was already an imposing 6 feet tall and 200 pounds.

In 1943, Howe was invited by the New York Rangers for a tryout. Howe failed to make the team, but despite this rejection, he was invited to try out for the Detroit Red Wings, where he impressed the coach and general manager Jack Adams. In 1946, at the age of 18, Howe made his National Hockey League debut playing right wing for the Detroit Red Wings. He quickly established himself as a great goal scorer, a gifted playmaker, and a dominating physical presence on the ice. Using his strength and talent, Howe was able to dominate the opposition throughout a career that spanned 5 decades, a feat unmatched by any athlete in any sport.

By the time Howe retired from the Red Wings in 1971, he had led them to four Stanley Cup championships, seven first place finishes, and established the team as a perennial

powerhouse. In addition, Howe was a six-time NHL Most Valuable Player and winner of the scoring title, and was the career leader in games played, goals, assists, and points. In 1973, when his sons Marty and Mark joined the Houston Aeros of the World Hockey Association, they convinced Gordie to fulfill his dream of playing on the professional level with them. After the WHA folded in 1979, Howe joined the Hartford Whalers of the NHL for one final season, helping the team make the playoffs. In 1997, Howe accomplished the last milestone in his storied career when he played professional hockey in a sixth decade. Playing a shift with the Detroit Vipers of the International Hockey League at nearly 70 years old, Howe was greeted by a thundering ovation.

Along with his many achievements on the ice, Howe and his wife Colleen are dedicated to the children of their community and around the world. The Howe Foundation, which they founded in 1993, is dedicated to enriching the lives of those in need.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a fine neighbor, a true Michigan fixture, and the man who made Detroit "Hockeytown," the greatest sports city in the world. I wish him a happy and healthy birthday, and wish him many more to come.

IN HONOR OF THE RETIREMENT  
OF COMMANDER GEORGE SHERWOOD

**HON. MICHELE BACHMANN**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of the many unsung heroes of our Nation's history, CDR George Sherwood, who will soon retire from an honorable career with the United States Navy.

Commander Sherwood was designated a Naval Aviator in 1985, following graduation from the University of Kansas and completion of flight training in Pensacola, FL, and Corpus Christi, TX. He served in a number of naval air deployments over the next 12 years in California, Texas, Japan, Puerto Rico, Panama, Iceland, and Sicily. He served in a variety of leadership positions, including Plane Commander, Mission Commander, Instructor Pilot, Tactics Officer, Training Officer, and Maintenance Officer.

In 1998, Commander Sherwood reported to the Bureau of Naval Personnel in Arlington, VA. He continued his personnel role as Officer-in-Charge in Dallas, TX. And, Commander Sherwood has spent the final stage of his career as the Naval Attaché with the U.S. Embassy in Baku, Azerbaijan. He has received two Meritorious Service Medals, an Air Medal, three Navy Commendation Medals, four Navy Achievement Medals, and multiple campaign and unit awards.

Commander Sherwood is one of many men and women who have spent their lives in service to their Nation. They do so for love of country and out of a true sense of commitment to the principles of freedom for which America stands. They do so without fanfare and without expectation of gratitude. But, our limitless gratitude is, indeed, what they deserve.

CDR George Sherwood is not only one of those fine men and women in uniform, but also my brother. My family and I are immensely proud of him. And, we thank him for his tireless dedication to our Nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE JEWISH  
FUND

**HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Jewish Fund, a charitable organization in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

Sinai Hospital began as a clinic opened by Dr. Harry Saltzstein in 1922. In January, 1953, Sinai Hospital opened their doors to give Jewish health care professionals a place to practice and as a central institution for the Jewish community. It was the realization of a dream for Detroit's Jewish community. From there the hospital grew into one of Detroit's top health care institutions.

In 1997, when the Detroit Medical Center purchased Sinai Hospital, it was not the end of that dream, but rather a transformation into another institution of excellence. Established with the proceeds from the sale, the Jewish Fund is an organization designed to perpetuate the Sinai dream through stewardship and innovation. The Fund continues the tradition of assuring excellent and compassionate care for those in need.

The Fund, recognizing the diverse population in Detroit, serves as a resource for the entire community, whether supporting the public health needs or fostering stronger relations with the city. Their role today is vital to many health care initiatives. They have provided over \$35 million in grants for health care over the last 10 years, including \$600,000 in grants for the Jewish Hospice and Chaplaincy Network this year alone.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize the achievements and service of the Jewish Fund. Their contributions to Detroit and the metropolitan area are too great to enumerate, and I wish them many years of continued success.

IN HONOR OF THE NEWLY ELECTED  
PRESIDENT OF TAIWAN, DR.  
MA YING-JEOU

**HON. KENNY MARCHANT**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I join my congressional colleagues in congratulating Dr. Ma Ying-jeou on his victory in Taiwan's recent Presidential election. The election was conducted with fairness and is free of any controversy.

I wish Dr. Ma every success as he leads Taiwan forward in a period filled with many challenges but also filled with many opportunities for Taiwan to prosper and achieve even greater success. I look forward to continuing to grow our relationship with Taiwan under the leadership of the newly elected President Ma.

The people of Taiwan have every reason to be proud of what they have achieved. In only 12 years Taiwan has made a peaceful and successful transition to democracy and has become one of Asia's most impressive and inspiring new democracies. In those 12 years Taiwan has completed four Presidential elections with close and spirited campaigns.

As an American legislator, I look on the achievements of the people of Taiwan with admiration. The Taiwanese record is a model to the many other countries of the world of what can be accomplished by a transition to a freely elected democratic government. My sincere congratulations to Dr. Ma on his election and to the people of Taiwan for their participation in the election process.

IN MEMORY OF JUDGE FRED  
ZIEMAN

**HON. MIKE ROSS**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. ROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of my dear friend, Chicot County Judge Fred Ziemer of Lake Village, Arkansas, who passed away March 18, 2008, at the age of 69.

I will forever remember Judge Ziemer as a devoted family man and someone who cared deeply about improving the quality of life in southeast Arkansas. This dedication to make his community and Chicot County a better place to live was evident throughout his tenure as Chicot County Judge.

As a native son of Arkansas's Delta region, farming was in Judge Ziemer's blood. He began his career as an agriculture pilot in Lake Village before becoming a commercial airline pilot in Texas. Upon retirement in 1980, he returned home to Lake Village and pursued his true passion in agriculture.

Judge Ziemer was later successfully elected to serve three terms as Chicot County Judge when he decided to try retirement for a second time. However, his devotion to southeast Arkansas quickly led him back to public service, and 4 years later he was again elected to serve as County Judge—a position he honorably held until his passing.

Aside from his stalwart leadership and devotion to Chicot County, Judge Ziemer actively contributed his time and hard work to numerous other endeavors to benefit the Delta region. The Delta was immensely important to Judge Ziemer, and this was apparent in his service as a state vice-president of the Mississippi Valley Flood Control Association, as a member of the Delta Grassroots Caucus, and in the Southeast Arkansas Economic Development District Inc., where he contributed fresh ideas and developed new initiatives to make our beloved State a better place to live.

Judge Fred Ziemer will forever be remembered for his steadfast devotion to the people of southeast Arkansas. Above all, he will sorely be missed as a friend. I extend my deepest condolences to his wife, Patricia Ziemer; his two sons, Mike Ziemer of Monticello, Arkansas, and Sam Ziemer of Spring, Texas; his daughter, Charlotte Yandell of Spring, Texas; his sister, Jan Hellmers of Lake Village, Arkansas; and to his seven grandchildren and countless friends. Fred Ziemer will be greatly

missed in Lake Village, Chicot County, and throughout southeast Arkansas, and I am truly saddened by this loss.

IN RECOGNITION OF MRS. KATHY  
JO MCMILLION REINSMITH

**HON. BILL SHUSTER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments and dedication of the current President of the Department of Pennsylvania's Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Mrs. Kathy Jo McMillion Reinsmith. Mrs. Reinsmith will be recognized for her service at the Veterans of Foreign Wars' Testimonial Dinner on April 12.

Over the past decade Kathy Reinsmith has worked consistently to increase the value of the community in which she has lived. Not only has Mrs. Reinsmith served four terms as President, four terms as Sr. Vice President, and one term as Jr. Vice President of her Auxiliary, she is now serving her second year as Trustee. As President of the Department of Pennsylvania's Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Mrs. Reinsmith has made it her mission to travel throughout the State of Pennsylvania and the United States, inspecting auxiliaries and attending a variety of functions in order to reach out to those around her. She has dedicated her time and energy not only to helping veterans in need, but also to students at Chambersburg High School where she has constantly served as a teacher. Currently, Mrs. Reinsmith serves as a Life Member for both the Durr-Kuhn VFW Ladies Auxiliary and the Scotland School for Veterans Children and the VFW National Home for Children. Her commitment to her community has been exhibited through her involvement with several organizations, many of which she has chaired, including the Voice of Democracy, Buddy Poppy Jr. Girls, and the Patriots Pen Program.

Through these prominent positions Mrs. Reinsmith has volunteered much of her time to fundraising for the local community. One of her most memorable accomplishments is her dedication to the Food Stand at the Shippensburg Community Fair. She spent a multitude of hours working with those in the community to make the Fair a positive experience for all. Mrs. Reinsmith's passion and hard work have not gone unnoticed. During her first term as District 18 President in 1999, she received the Outstanding District President Medallion. While serving her second term as President of District 18, she received the Nation "Remembrance" Plate for the Legislative Program as well as the Outstanding Department Chairman Medallion. Mrs. Reinsmith was also recognized for her service to the community and was given the National "Everyone Achieves Magic" Plate.

As she reflects upon her work as President of the Ladies Auxiliary, Mrs. Reinsmith can be proud of her life of service with which she has found a great amount of success. I look forward to celebrating the contributions and accomplishments of such a dedicated individual. Her involvement has brought a greater appreciation to our area and has surely been an asset to the community. I would like to wish

Mrs. Kathy Jo Reinsmith all the best in her future endeavors as she continues to serve the Chambersburg County School District as a devoted teacher. I am sure she will continue to do great things for the community and I thank her for her dedication and service.

TAYLORSVILLE VFW AUXILIARY  
AND TAYLOR KING SUPPORT DE-  
PLOYED TROOPS

**HON. VIRGINIA FOXX**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of a group of true American patriots. This past Christmas a group of citizens in Alexander County, North Carolina worked hard to communicate to our men and women stationed overseas that they are in our prayers and on our minds.

A civic-minded band of women in the Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary from the rural community of Hiddenite worked together to rally their community to send care packages to local armed forces members stationed abroad during Christmas. The sacrifice of military service during Christmas is often overlooked during a time when many of our brave military men and women are stationed abroad, making this effort all the more meaningful to the soldiers they aided.

Thanks to the selfless work of Margaret Milsap, Mary Lasky and Jeanette Stevenson, which was spearheaded by Mary Matthews, more than 80 care packages were sent to 30 deployed soldiers during this past Christmas. Taylor King furniture, a Taylorsville business, generously footed the entire bill for the mailing of the 80-plus packages.

Together, the VFW auxiliary and Taylor King provided a slice of home to 30 soldiers serving in foreign countries during Christmas. I hope their example of citizenship and patriotism during uncertain times serves to inspire many more Americans to show their support for our troops who fight for freedom every day.

RECOGNITION OF GLOBAL CHILD  
NUTRITION MONTH

**HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the School Nutrition Association, SNA, and the Global Child Nutrition Foundation, GCNF naming April as Global Child Nutrition Month.

As part of this recognition, school nutrition professionals are encouraged to take 1 day, 1 week, or all month to partner with students and teachers in an effort to raise awareness about the ravages of hunger among children around the globe and here in the United States.

Hunger is a political condition. We have the means to end hunger here in the U.S. and around the world—we just haven't mustered the political will to do so. This observance is an opportunity to raise awareness about the solutions to global hunger and poverty and, ultimately, to help build momentum in the fight to end the scourge of hunger.

At any given moment, as many as 300 million of the world's children are trapped in the grinding cycle of poverty and hunger. Imagine trying to learn, grow and succeed while struggling with hunger.

For some children, hunger may be offset by healthy school meals. For others, especially in developing nations, hunger is acute—it is literal starvation. It is a contributor to disease and early death. According to the United Nations, hunger and malnutrition take the lives of 18,000 kids every single day.

Although we may not be able to resolve all sorts of natural and political forces, we do know that nurturing and educating a child is the single most effective means of breaking the cycle of poverty.

According to the World Food Program, 130 million children do not attend school; and among those who do, most do not receive meals during school hours. A hungry child cannot learn or thrive; a society whose children live in hunger will never prosper.

The Global Child Nutrition Foundation was created in 2006 with the mission of expanding opportunities for the world's children to receive adequate nutrition for learning and achieving their potential.

This observance is also an opportunity to raise awareness about the solutions to global hunger and poverty.

GCNF President and SNA Past President Gene White, a certified school nutrition specialist, said it best—"By combining our will and resources, hunger will no longer set boundaries for learning and achievement. Freeing children from hunger so they may become self-supporting, contributing citizens is a worthy endeavor. It is also a step toward building a more stable and peaceful world."

Madam Speaker, as someone who is committed to ending hunger once and for all, I thank and commend the School Nutrition Association and the Global Child Nutrition Foundation for naming April as Global Child Nutrition Month.

It is my hope that all of us can work to be part of the solution as we raise awareness in eradicating hunger.

#### WOMEN'S HISTORY STATEMENT 2008

**HON. JOHN P. SARBANES**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. SARBANES. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Women's History Month. Though we have designated March as the particular month for this celebration, every day could rightly be designated to honor the contributions of women to our society. On this occasion I would like to highlight the achievements of two women who through their work have deeply impacted Maryland's Third District and our State as a whole.

Just this past year Karen Rothenberg, Dean of the University of Maryland Law School, was inducted into the Maryland Women's Hall of Fame. The Maryland Women's Hall of Fame was established through the efforts of the Maryland Commission for Women and the Women Legislators of Maryland in 1985. Its purpose is to honor Maryland women who have made unique and lasting contributions to

the economic, political, cultural and social life of the State, and to provide visible models of achievement for tomorrow's female leaders.

This year, Dean Rothenberg is being honored by the Daily Record as Maryland's Top 100 Women. Dean Rothenberg has demonstrated leadership and scholarship in her role at the University of Maryland Law School, and in her field. She graduated as part of the first class of women at Princeton University. She has served as a member of the Institute of Medicine's Committee on Legal and Ethical Issues Relating to the Inclusion of Women in Clinical Studies, on numerous NIH panels on prenatal care, the recruitment and retention of women in clinical studies, and the ethical, legal and social implications of genetics. I have had the privilege to work with Dean Rothenberg this year on an effort to bring more lawyers into public service. This is an area in which she has been recognized on numerous occasions for her efforts. She has established loan repayment programs, grant opportunities and scholarships for law school graduates that wish to pursue careers in public service, and they in turn have enriched our community. She has worked with students to provide volunteer relief in New Orleans, and has facilitated opportunities for students to pursue public interest studies abroad. This is only the tip of the iceberg.

In addition to having been the first woman elected to serve as Mayor of Baltimore City, Sheila Dixon has spent more than 20 years in public office, dedicating her career to improving the lives of women, children and minorities. She has worked tirelessly on public health issues, and brings a wealth of experience and insight into business development in the city.

Among her numerous awards and honors, Mayor Dixon was recently admitted to the Daily Record's Circle of Excellence for her third selection as one of "Maryland's Top 100 Women." She serves on numerous boards, including the Institute of Human Virology, the Transplant Resource Center, the Urban Health Initiative, the Baltimore Public Markets Corporation, the Living Classrooms Foundation, and the Walters Art Gallery.

This year Mayor Dixon launched the YouthWorks campaign, which brings together businesses, community organizations, foundations and city and State agencies in an effort to engage Baltimore youth in meaningful summer activities. She is strongly committed to accomplishing the goal of ensuring that any Baltimore youth who wants a summer job can have one. This program will not only benefit youth by providing valuable work experience, it will also provide businesses with talented and motivated workers.

Though I have not had the privilege of working with all of the following women, I would also like to take this opportunity to highlight Maryland's Top 100 Women for 2008 as honored by the Daily Record:

Judge Theresa M. Adams, Circuit Court for Frederick County; Dr. Susan C. Aldridge, University of Maryland University College; Dr. Janet D. Allan, University of Maryland School of Nursing; Dr. Sharon D. Allison-Otley, The COSHAR Foundation; Judge Nancy V. Alquist, United States Bankruptcy Court; Rev. Dr. China M. Ashe, Hope Ministries; Judge Vicki Ballou-Watts, Circuit Court for Baltimore County; Lisa R. Bands, My Cleaning Service, Inc.; Judge Mary Ellen Barbera, Court of Special

Appeals of Maryland; Traci A. Barnett, Girl Scouts of Central Maryland; Buffy Beaudoin-Schwartz, Association of Baltimore Area Grantmakers; Cathy S. Bernard, CSB Management Corporation; Dr. Meredith Bond, University of Maryland Baltimore School of Medicine; Annie L. Burton-Byrd, The Signature Group, LLC; Ellen A. Callegary, Callegary & Steedman, PA; Wanda G. Caporaletti, Law Office of Wanda G. Caporaletti; Diane Lillibridge Caslow, MedStar Health; Marie A. Cavallaro, Cavallaro Cleary Visual Art Foundation; Rev. Mary W. Conaway, Register of Wills for Baltimore City; Patricia E. Cornish, PEC Financial Consulting; Dr. P. Ann Cotten, University of Baltimore Schaefer Center for Public Policy.

Diane D'Aiutolo Collins, Tydings & Rosenberg, LLP; Janine M. DiPaula Stevens, Vircity; Anna M. Dopkin, T. Rowe Price Associates; Councilmember Valerie Ervin, Montgomery County Council; Carolyn Wilson Evans, Sengstacke & Evans, LLC; Margaret (Meg) Z. Ferguson, Baltimore County Executive Office; Jodi Finkelstein, Domestic Violence Center of Howard County; Ellen R. Fish, Towson Community Bank, a div. of AmericasBANK; Mary Ellen Flynn, Andalmán & Flynn, PC; Taylor L. Foss, LifeBridge Health; Commissioner Jan H. Gardner, Frederick County Government; Sandra N. Harriman, University of Maryland School of Medicine; Carrie Harris-Muller, Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of the Mid-Atlantic States, Inc.

Dr. Elizabeth A. Hunt, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine; Sara T. Jacoby, The Legacy Group, Inc.; Deborah E. Jennings, DLA Piper U.S., LLP; Senator Verna L. Jones, State of Maryland; Leronia A. Josey, Law Office of Leronia Josey; Pamela J. King, Open Society Institute-Baltimore; Julie Lenzer Kirk, Path Forward International; Marcy K. Kolodny, Dyslexia Tutoring Program; Treasurer Nancy K. Kopp, State of Maryland; Jennifer Kozak, J Kozak Creative; Senator Rona E. Kramer, State of Maryland; Judge Sherrie L. Krauser, Circuit Court for Prince George's County; Dr. Martha Joynt Kumar, Towson University.

Judge Theresa A. Lawler, Orphan's Court for Baltimore County; Linda Thater Layton, Attorney at Law; Cynthia L. Leppert, Neuberger, Quinn, Gielen, Rubin & Gibber, PA; Eileen M. Levitt, The HR Team, Inc.; Dr. Leslie D. Mancuso, JHPIEGO; Sister Patricia McCarron, SSND, Notre Dame Preparatory School; Annette Merz, LENPEX, LLC; Bonnae J. Meshulam, Junior Achievement of Central Maryland, Inc.; Dr. Redonda G. Miller, Johns Hopkins Hospital and School of Medicine; Elise Davison Morris, Whiteford, Taylor & Preston, LLP; Paula T. Morris, Kids of Honor; Nhora Barrera Murphy, The Media Network; Alice Neily Mutch, Capital Consultants, BaySmart Gardening, LLC.

Myra W. Norton, Community Analytics; Sylvia Ontaneda-Bernales, Ober Kaler Grimes & Shriver; Beth Pepper, Law Firm of Beth Pepper; Trudy E. Perkins, Office of U.S. Representative Elijah E. Cummings; Beth S. Perlman, Constellation Energy; Liz Pettengill, Greater Baltimore Committee; Bonnie Lamdin Phipps, St. Agnes HealthCare; Barbara Portnoy, PLDA Interiors; Randi Alper Pupkin, Art with a Heart, Inc.; Stephanie L. Reel, Johns Hopkins University and Johns Hopkins Health System; Dr. Donna L. Reihl, The Community College of Baltimore County; Juliette Rizzo, U.S. Department of Education; Dr. Marcella L. Roenneburg, Mercy Medical Center.

Karen H. Rothenberg, University of Maryland School of Law; Dr. Lisa Rowen, University of Maryland Medical Center; Dr. Cynda Hylton Rushton, Johns Hopkins University and Children's Center; Hannah Sassoon, Montgomery County Office of the Sheriff; Judge Katherine D. Savage, Circuit Court for Montgomery County; Lynne C. Schaefer, University of Maryland, Baltimore County; Rosa M. Scharf, Howard Bank; Mary Fulton Shock, Philanthropist; J. Patricia Wilson Smoot, Prince George's County Office of the State's Attorney; Felicita Sola-Carter, Social Security Administration; Yolanda F. Sonnier, Randall & Sonnier, LLC; Sally L. Sternbach, Rockville Economic Development, Inc.; Ferrier R. Stillman, Tydings & Rosenberg, LLP.

Karen D. Stokes, Greater Homewood Community Corporation; Anita H. Thomas, University of Baltimore; Dr. Rosemary M. Thomas, Salisbury University; Suzanne C. Thompson, Heritage Financial Consultants, LLC, Advanced Benefit Solutions, Inc.; Margaret Witherup Tindall, Gordon, Feinblatt, Rothman, Hoffberger & Hollander, LLC; Marlene Trestman, Office of the Attorney General; Jenny J. Trostel, Saab of Baltimore; Judith Vaughan-Prather, Montgomery County Commission for Women; Laura Neuman Volkman, Springboard Enterprises; Stephanie T. Willey, Comcast Spotlight; Deborah Smith Williams, M&T Bank; Jeanne M. Yeager, Mid-Shore Council on Family Violence; Terry Slade Young, The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore; and Gina Monath Zawitoski, DLA Piper U.S., LLP.

I salute these women as examples of the many others who have made, and continue to make our country great.

#### HONORING GENERAL MOTORS FOR WINNING RICHARD H. AUSTIN LONG-TERM TRAFFIC SAFETY AWARD

##### HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, earlier this month, the Michigan Governor's Traffic Safety Advisory Commission announced that the General Motors Corporation will receive the Richard H. Austin Long-Term Traffic Safety Award, "for being a corporate and auto industry leader in promoting traffic safety issues," in the State and nationally. The award was presented at the group's annual awards luncheon on March 13, 2008, in East Lansing, Michigan.

This prestigious award is named after a true leader in traffic safety, the late Richard H. Austin, who served as Michigan Secretary of State from 1971 to 1994. Secretary Austin, who was known as, "Mr. Traffic Safety," was a pioneer in promoting passage of State seat belt use laws and in promoting measures for child passenger safety, drunken driving prevention, and motorcycle safety.

The commission's announcement notes that GM, "has made significant contributions in addressing key traffic safety concerns including safety belt use, child passenger safety in and around vehicles and drunk driving through partnerships and collaboration, advocacy, financial support and voluntary time commitments to traffic safety organizations by company executives and employees."

The announcement states that when, "efforts were underway to upgrade Michigan's seat belt law from a secondary to a primary law, GM led the collaborative efforts," to support it. I am pleased to note that as a result of this upgraded law Michigan has one of the highest State belt use rates in the Nation at 94 percent.

Among the other specific activities for which GM is being recognized is its Safe Kids Buckle Up partnership with Safe Kids Worldwide. Under this program, child safety seats are checked by trained experts for proper installation; safety seats are provided to families in need; and education is provided to help assure that children are not left alone in vehicles and they are not allowed to play in trunks. Further, adults learn to walk around a parked vehicle to check for children before they start the engine and children are taught that it is never safe to play in driveways, parking lots or on sidewalks when vehicles are nearby.

There are 25 Safe Kids coalitions and chapters in Michigan, and, over the last 10 years under the GM-Safe Kids program, approximately 45,000 child safety seats in the State have been inspected and another 13,500 have been provided to families in need free of charge. In addition, several permanent child seat inspection stations have been set up, run by Safe Kids, and four mobile car seat check-up vans donated by GM are operating in the State.

Madam Speaker, I have had the opportunity to witness the work of Safe Kids Flint, which is part of the Hurley Medical Center. The dedicated men and women who work at these events volunteer a significant amount of their time and talent to assure that children are riding safely in vehicles, and they provide very valuable information to parents. Safe Kids Flint has reported that 19 lives have been saved after families who attended one of the organization's events were involved in crashes.

I am pleased to join in congratulating General Motors for this recognition of its exceptional corporate citizenship in working to protect the citizens of Michigan through the Safe Kids partnership and many other safety activities.

#### HONORING RAYMOND D. HENNAGIR FOR HIS BRAVERY AND SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

##### HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Corporal Raymond D. Hennagir of Deptford, New Jersey. Corporal Hennagir was injured while on foot patrol in Zaidon, Iraq. He stepped on an improvised explosive device, losing both of his legs and four fingers on his left hand. The bravery of this man is truly inspiring. Out of respect and gratitude for the great service Corporal Hennagir has given his country, I submit this poem written in his honor by Albert Carey Caswell.

TEACH ME

Teach Me!

Teach me well!

You so beseech me. As you so gallantly look past all of your pain and heartache, all of your hell!

Reach Me!

As you Reach in and out to Me! With your heart which so swells!

As your most splendid heart to me, so all about life . . . so tells!

All about courage and faith!

All about not letting pain and heartache, get in your way . . . and not letting go, or your soul erase!

All about courage's, most courageous face!

Let me learn!

As from you, and all of your character I can so discern!

All about life . . . and all about what is possible, when within a great heart a soul so burns!

So I can grow!

So I can learn, so throughout my life I can so use and learn . . . of what a heart is capable of so!

As your blessings to me you now so bestow, ever in these moments of my life . . . I will know!

Which, can so show me . . . that path!

Which, can so show me the way . . . which can so teach me all about the things which last . . .

As I watch you and your most heroic glow! The questions to my heart you so answer, I ask?

For you have touched me, with your most heroic glow!

For you have so taught to me, all that it is . . . that I so need to know!

So I can touch the sky, so I can so soar so very high . . . a part of you, I will take with me I'll show!

For on this Earth . . .

Our Lord God so puts on such men and women of such fine worth . . .

To Teach Us All, to so hear his call . . . to make us all understand, of what it is which comes first!

Everybody loves Raymond, You Teach Me . . . Teach Me So!

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, on March 14, 2008, I was unavoidably detained and was not able to record my votes for Rollcall No. 143-146.

Had I been present I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 143—Yes—Providing for the consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 3773) to amend the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 to establish a procedure for authorizing certain acquisitions of foreign intelligence, and for other purposes.

Rollcall No. 144—Yes—Providing for the consideration of the Senate amendment to the bill (H.R. 3773) to amend the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 to establish a procedure for authorizing certain acquisitions of foreign intelligence, and for other purposes.

Rollcall No. 145—Yes—To amend the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 to establish a procedure for authorizing certain acquisitions of foreign intelligence, and for other purposes.

Rollcall No. 146—Yes—On Approving the Journal.

RECOGNIZING OFFICER PAUL  
JUSTIN COFFEE

**HON. KENNY MARCHANT**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Officer Paul Justin Coffee for being named the 2007 Police Officer of the Year by the Euless Police Department.

Officer Justin Coffee has been with the Euless Police Department since March 2005. Prior to serving and protecting the Euless community, Officer Coffee was a police officer in Bedford, Texas for seven years. He holds an Advanced Peace Officer certification from the great state of Texas.

Officer Justin Coffee, a native Texan, graduated from L.D. Bell High School and attended Tarrant County College. His father is a police sergeant in Hurst, Texas and his brother is a police officer in Bedford, Texas. Officer Coffee is married to Sarah and they have three children.

During Officer Coffee's distinguished career in the Euless Police Department, he has received seven commendations, was nominated for the 2006 Rookie of the Year, and was selected as one of six Field Training Officers for the department. He consistently maintains a high level of competency and has gained much respect among his fellow police officers.

It is with great honor that I recognize Officer Paul Justin Coffee for his dedication and outstanding service to the Euless Police Department and the City of Euless, Texas. I applaud his numerous achievements and wish him continued success in his service. I am proud to represent Officer Coffee in the 24th District of Texas.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MS. FRAN  
TONEY

**HON. THADDEUS G. MCCOTTER**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. MCCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge Ms. Fran Toney, Executive Director of the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce, upon her retirement from seventeen years of dutiful service.

Fran Toney is a woman who has always loved Plymouth, Michigan. Fran has focused the past seventeen years of her career on getting others to love it too. As executive director, Ms. Toney encouraged members of her community to invest in local businesses and the community. Under her venerable tenure, the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce has nearly doubled its size from 400 to 700 committed members. Ms. Toney initiated more than 42 new programs which continue to make the Plymouth area a prosperous and proud part of Michigan. From Scarecrows in Kellogg Park to the annual Auction Fundraiser, Fran Toney has made the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce a point of pride for our community and the entire state of Michigan.

Madam Speaker, for seventeen years Ms. Fran Toney has faithfully served the Plymouth community and its citizens. As she enters the next phase of her life, she leaves behind a legacy of dedication, vibrancy, and fellowship. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Ms. Fran Toney upon her retirement and recognizing her years of loyal service to our community, state and country.

HONORING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF THE ANNANDALE  
LIONS CLUB

**HON. TOM DAVIS**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 31, 2008*

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Annandale

Lions Club, a truly outstanding organization that has served Annandale, Virginia for 60 years.

Throughout its history, the Annandale Lions Club has embraced the Lions' philosophy of "We Serve," and all residents of Annandale— young and old—owe them a debt of gratitude. To date, the club has raised over \$1,000,000 and has dedicated innumerable hours toward making their community a better place to live.

Thanks to the Lions, there is playground equipment at Annandale Elementary School. Thanks to the Lions, Fairfax hospital got its first maternity ward. Thanks to the Lions, there are bleachers and lights at the Annandale High School athletic fields.

As Annandale evolved from small rural town to bustling suburb, the Lions have been there to help keep up with change. They marked streets, numbered houses and mapped their community to help firefighters respond to emergencies and facilitate mail delivery. As the number of children in the area grew, they helped provide wholesome activities by sponsoring Scout troops and baseball teams. They constructed the children's playhouse at the Annandale Christian Community for Action's (ACCA) day care center, and have sponsored local youths for the Virginia Boys and Girls State summer leadership and citizenship programs.

The Annandale Lions, like Lions everywhere, also do a great deal for those with special physical needs, particularly those with vision and hearing impairments. They support sight and hearing screenings and research, and have offered financial assistance to the Virginia Lions Eye Institute.

Madam Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in thanking each and every Annandale Lion for their hard work and dedication to helping others in making Annandale a great place to live. I am proud to honor the club on its 60th anniversary, and wish them continued success in the years to come.

## SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, April 1, 2008 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

## MEETINGS SCHEDULED

## APRIL 2

9:30 a.m.

## Appropriations

Energy and Water Development Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2009 for the Department of Energy.

SD-124

## Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine Iraq after the surge, focusing on military prospects.

SD-419

## Judiciary

To hold oversight hearings to examine the Department of Homeland Security.

SH-216

## Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine the current economic outlook.

SD-106

10 a.m.

## Armed Services

Emerging Threats and Capabilities Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2009 for the Cooperative Threat Reduction Program and the Proliferation Security Initiative at the Department of Defense, and nuclear nonproliferation programs at the National Nuclear Security Administration, and the future years defense program.

SR-232A

## Environment and Public Works

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the listing decision for the polar bear under the Endangered Species Act.

SD-406

10:30 a.m.

## Appropriations

Defense Subcommittee

To meet in closed session to examine National Reconnaissance Office (NRO)/Space Programs.

S-407, Capitol

## Appropriations

Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine National Labor Relations Board Representation elections and initial collective bargaining agreements, focusing on safeguarding workers' rights.

SD-138

11 a.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine nuclear terrorism, focusing on assessing the threat to the United States.

SD-342

2:30 p.m.

## Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider S. 2688, to improve the protections afforded under Federal law to consumers from contaminated seafood by directing the Secretary of Commerce to establish a program, in coordination with other appropriate Federal agencies, to strengthen activities for ensuring that seafood sold or offered for sale to the public in or affecting interstate commerce is fit for human consumption, S.J. Res. 28, disapproving the rule submitted by the Federal Communications Commission with respect to broadcast media ownership, S. 2607, to make a technical correction to section 3009 of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, H.R. 3985, to amend title 49, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Transportation to register a person providing transportation by an over-the-road bus as a motor carrier of passengers only if the person is willing and able to comply with certain accessibility requirements in addition to other existing requirements, H.R. 802, to amend the Act to Prevent Pollution from Ships to implement MARPOL Annex VI, and the nomination of Robert A. Sturgell, of Maryland, to be Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration.

SR-253

## Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine Iraq after the surge, focusing on political prospects.

SD-419

## Armed Services

Readiness and Management Support Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the Department of Defense contracting in Iraq and Afghanistan.

SR-222

## APRIL 3

9:30 a.m.

## Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Gen. David D. McKiernan, to be General, and Commander, International Security Assistance Force, Afghanistan, Lt. Gen. Raymond T. Odierno, to be General, and Vice Chief of Staff, and Lt. Gen. Walter L. Sharp, to be General, and Commander, United Nations Command/Combined Forces Command/United States Forces Korea, all of the United States Army.

SD-106

## Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the current price of oil, focusing on non-commercial institutional investors.

SD-366

## Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the conditions and developments of Iraq in 2012.

SD-419

## Appropriations

Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the status of the Surface Transportation Trust Funds and impact on federal spending.

SD-138

## Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine legislative presentations from sundry Veteran Affairs organizations.

SH-216

10 a.m.

## Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine turmoil in U.S. credit markets, focusing on the recent actions of federal financing regulators.

SD-538

## Appropriations

Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2009 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Fiscal Year.

SD-192

## Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine international fisheries, focusing on management and enforcement.

SR-253

## Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions at United States colleges and universities.

SD-406

## Finance

To hold hearings to examine outside the box on estate tax reform, focusing on reviewing ideas to simplify planning.

SD-215

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine Federal Emergency Management Agency, focusing on if the agency is better prepared for a catastrophe now than it was in 2005.

SD-342

## Judiciary

Business meeting to consider S. 2136, to address the treatment of primary mortgages in bankruptcy, S. 2133, to authorize bankruptcy courts to take certain actions with respect to mortgage loans in bankruptcy, S. 2041, to amend the False Claims Act, S. 2533, to enact a safe, fair, and responsible state secrets privilege Act, S. 702, to authorize the Attorney General to award grants to State courts to develop and implement State courts interpreter programs, S. Res. 468, designating April 2008 as "National 9-1-1 Education Month", and the nominations of Catharina Haynes, of Texas, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Fifth Circuit, and Rebecca A. Gregory, to be United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Texas.

SD-226

10:30 a.m.

## Aging

To hold hearings to examine scrambling for health insurance coverage, focusing on health security for people in late middle age.

SD-608

2 p.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia Subcommittee

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform Subcommittee on the Federal Workforce, Postal Service, and the District of Columbia to examine managing diversity of senior leadership in the Federal workforce and Postal Service.

2154, Rayburn Building

2:15 p.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Mark S. Davis, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia, David Gregory Kays, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Missouri, David J. Novak, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Virginia, Stephen N. Limbaugh, Jr., to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Missouri, and Elisebeth C. Cook, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

SD-226

3 p.m.

Armed Services

Airland Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2009 on Army modernization, and the future years defense program.

SR-222

## APRIL 4

9:30 a.m.

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine the current employment situation.

SD-106

## APRIL 8

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the situation in Iraq and progress made by the Government of Iraq in meeting benchmarks and achieving reconciliation.

SD-106

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the Federal Trade Commission reauthorization.

SR-253

2:30 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the digital television transition, focusing on consumers, broadcasters, and converter boxes.

SR-253

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine S. 2259 and H.R. 813, bills to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Prado Basin Natural Treatment System Project, to authorize the Secretary to participate in the Lower Chino Dairy Area desalination demonstration and reclamation project, H.R. 31, to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study

and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District Wildomar Service Area Recycled Water Distribution Facilities and Alberhill Wastewater Treatment and Reclamation Facility Projects, H.R. 716, to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Santa Rosa Urban Water Reuse Plan, H.R. 786, to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Los Angeles County Water Supply Augmentation Demonstration Project, H.R. 1140, to authorize the Secretary, in cooperation with the City of San Juan Capistrano, California, to participate in the design, planning, and construction of an advanced water treatment plant facility and recycled water system, H.R. 1503, to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Avra Black Wash Reclamation and Riparian Restoration Project, H.R. 1725, to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the Rancho California Water District Southern Riverside County Recycled Non-Potable Distribution Facilities and Demineralization Desalination Recycled Water Treatment and Reclamation Facility Project, H.R. 1737, to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in the design, planning, and construction of permanent facilities for the GREAT project to reclaim, reuse, and treat impaired waters in the area of Oxnard, California, and H.R. 2614, to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in certain water projects in California.

SD-366

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine Iraq after the surge.

SH-216

Armed Services

SeaPower Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2009 on Navy force structure requirements and programs to meet those requirements, and the future years defense program.

SR-222

## APRIL 9

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine making Veterans Affairs the workplace of choice for health care providers.

SR-418

10 a.m.

Appropriations

State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2009 for

the Department of State and foreign operations.

SD-138

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine S. 1633, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the suitability and feasibility of including the battlefield and related sites of the Battle of Shepherdstown in Shepherdstown, West Virginia, as part of Harpers Ferry National Historical Park or Antietam National Battlefield, S. 1993 and H.R. 2197, bills to modify the boundary of the Hopewell Culture National Historical Park in the State of Ohio, S. 2207, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating Green McAdoo School in Clinton, Tennessee, as a unit of the National Park System, S. 2254, to establish the Mississippi Hills National Heritage Area in the State of Mississippi, S. 2329 and H.R. 2627, bills to establish the Thomas Edison National Historical Park in the State of New Jersey as the successor to the Edison National Historic Site, S. 2502 and H.R. 3332, bills to provide for the establishment of a memorial within Kalaupapa National Historical Park located on the island of Molokai, in the State of Hawaii, to honor and perpetuate the memory of those individuals who were forcibly relocated to the Kalaupapa Peninsula from 1866 to 1969, S. 2512, to establish the Mississippi Delta National Heritage Area in the State of Mississippi, and H.R. 3998, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct special resources studies of certain lands and structures to determine the appropriate means for preservation, use, and management of the resources associated with such lands and structures.

SD-366

## APRIL 10

10 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Aviation Operations, Safety, and Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine aviation safety oversight.

SR-253

## APRIL 15

10 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine S. 2438, to repeal certain provisions of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act.

SD-366

## APRIL 23

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine an update on the Veterans Affairs and the Department of Defense cooperation and collaboration.

SR-418

2:30 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine phantom traffic.

SR-253